POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

July 2010

Community Comes Together for Inaugural Oshke Kno Kewewen Eagle Staff Pow Wow

The inspiration for the inaugural Eagle Staff Pow Wow, held at Rodgers Lake over Memorial Day, had been growing for a long while. According to organizers, tribal citizens felt the need for a spring traditional Pow Wow to complement the annual Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa contest Pow Wow held during Labor Day. At the same time, veterans from the Pokagon Band were becoming more aware of their role within the tribe, organizing and connecting with the community. And so, when the veterans group decided to create an Eagle Staff, the idea for the Eagle Staff Pow Wow coalesced.

An Eagle Staff can be likened to a flag, symbolic of a native nation. The Pow Wow committee decided that Memorial Day weekend, a time when traditionally the U.S. honors its fallen soldiers, would be the right time to hold a traditional Pow Wow. Called Oshke Kno Kewewen, which means the new Eagle Staff, the Pow Wow brought together veterans and their families to honor their role as warriors, to learn and to create a powerful and meaningful tradition together.

During a sunrise ceremony Saturday, families brought an Eagle feather representing their families' veterans to adorn the staff. Information on each veteran was recorded in tribal records to memorialize the details of his or her service. In all, 95 Pokagon veterans were recognized. Following the smudging of the completed Eagle Staff, participants took part in a feast of walleye, trout, wild rice and berries. The veterans presented the Eagle Staff to the Pow Wow participants during the grand entry at one o'clock. Dancers and drummers celebrated the Eagle Staff during the rest of the weekend.



photo credit: Hewitt Photography

Above, veterans present the Eagle Staff to the community. Below, Pow Wow organizers put together a lacrosse game for attendees.





Clarence White, left, enjoys the day.

"Having the Eagle Staff come out for the first time was empowering," said Kevin Daugherty, a member of the Pow Wow committee. "The first dance was as full as I can remember the arena ever being."

"This was a big step in the development of our community," said Butch Starret, one of the organizers and a veteran.

"It was what we needed it to be," said Andy Jackson, another committee member. "A traditional gathering that brought families together."

U.S. Representative Fred Upton attended Sunday and presented American flags to some of the veterans. The tribe gave him the gift of a kooch, or war stick, in return.

The Eagle Staff Pow Wow will become an annual Memorial Day event.

Pokégnek Yajdanawa "The Pokagon's Tell It"

Guidelines for Member Newsletter Submissions
Motioned by Tribal Council 4-20-05

Newsletter
Enrolled members of the Pokagon Band are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry, and announcements for posting in the Pokégnek Yajdanawa newsletter. Newsletter submissions shall be the views and product of the submitting member. Newsletter submissions written by or to a third-party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to Pokégnek Yajdanawa are not original.

Identification
Anonymous or "name withheld" submissions will not be published. Members shall include their tribal enrollment number, full name, and mailing address with all newsletter submissions. Tribal enrollment number and mailing address will be used for verification purposes and will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Communication
Newsletter staff will contact members should any reason arise that may delay or prevent posting of newsletter submissions. To ensure timely communication with members regarding their newsletter submissions, members may choose to provide additional contact information such as a phone number or e-mail address. Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and other provided contact information will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Etiquette
Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Newsletter staff reserves the right to refuse submissions based on the following criteria;
1. False, misleading, or defamatory;
2. Discriminatory, sexist, racist, demeaning, insulting, or otherwise offensive to another;
3. Threatening, harassing, intimidating, or otherwise may tend to produce fear;
4. Profane, obscene, pornographic, indecent, or patently offensive to the average user;
5. Disruptive to the office, undermining of the Band's or a supervisor's authority, or impairing of working relationships; and
6. Absolutely no Political campaigning is allowed.

Where to send submissions:
Newsletter
C/O Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047
Or e-mail: newsletter@pokagonband-nsn.gov

VETERANS COMMITTEE NEWS

The Veterans Committee has scheduled monthly meetings to be held on the 1st Thursday of every month at 1:30PM at Elders Hall.
For more information, contact Butch Starrett @ 269-591-2601

The deadline for membership submissions for the AUGUST 2010 newsletter will be **JULY 14, 2010**. Send articles and announcements to:
Pokagon Newsletter
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

newsletter@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Cigarette Sales

Cigarettes are being sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We currently sell a full line of Basic, Marlboro, and New Port brands. We also have a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston. Sales are currently being handled by the receptionist on a daily basis (Monday-Friday) during normal business hours (8-5). You must be 18 years old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. We currently have a maximum of 5 cartons per month per tribal member (increased from 2 originally).

We are now accepting credit cards!

South Bend Area Office Schedule

Monday – Housing staff will be available to provide information on all Housing programs.

Tuesday –1st Tuesday of the month: Health Services Social Worker
2nd Tuesday of the month: Contract Health Services Processor
3rd Tuesday of the month: Community Health Nurse
4th Tuesday of the month: Community Health Representative
Each Tuesday: Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, Foot Care, Diabetes Management and Prevention by appointment.

Wednesday – Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and WIA (Workforce Investment Act) applications.

Friday – Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the Daycare program will be available.

ENROLLMENT, IHS, SOCIAL SERVICES, HOUSING, EDUCATION OFFICES TO BE AT SATURDAY MEETINGS

In order to serve membership more efficiently, please note that the office representatives will be available at the monthly Saturday Membership Tribal Council Meetings from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. At this time you will be able to receive your new enrollment cards, or discuss with the various office representatives. Please note that these meetings are generally held the second Saturday of the month. However, please check the Calendar of Events in the Tribal Newsletter for the exact date every month.

July 2010 Pokagon Band Elder's Lunch Menu

Please call the day before if you are not a regular attendee for meals
Meals subject to change 269-782-0765 or 800-859-2717 Meal Service Begins @ 12:00 Noon

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Note: milk, tea, coffee, water, & Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, pickles, and onion served with sandwiches and burgers.			1 Business Buffalo Stew Tomato Salad Jell-O W/ Fruit Cake Roll	2 Grilled BBQ Chicken Baked Potato Broccoli and Cauliflower Blueberries Roll
5 Closed Fourth of July	6 Pork Loin on Grill Red Skin Potato Salad Carrots Yogurt W/ Fruit Roll	7 Turkey Goulash Garden Salad Mixed Vegetables Garlic Bread Italian Ice	8 Walleye Wild Rice Peas/ Spinach Salad Fruit Tray / Roll Carrot Cake	9 Pizza with and Without Meat Garden Salad Fresh Fruit
12 Language Pork Roast W/ Potatoes, Carrots, & Rutabaga Cucumber Salad Apple Crisp Roll	13 Sloppy Joe Potato Wedges Brussels Sprouts Tomato Salad Fruit	14 Buffalo Brats and Cabbage Mashed Potatoes Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad Cottage Cheese W/ Pineapple Roll	15 Elder's Summer Picnic Potluck BBQ Ribs and Chicken Macaroni Salad Squash Salad Fruit Tray / Roll	16 Taco Bake OR Fish Sticks Garden Salad Melon Wedges Jell-O Roll
19 Language Buffalo Meatballs W/ Noodles and Gravy Spinach Tossed Salad Mandarin Oranges Roll	20 Turkey Pot Pie Veggie Kabobs Waldorf Salad Ice Cream Roll	21 Beef Manhattan Mashed Potatoes W/ Gravy Garden Salad Broccoli Fruit Salad Roll	22 Salmon and Potato Dish Green Beans Tomato Salad Applesauce and Cottage Cheese Roll	23 Bean Soup Garden Salad Cottage Cheese & Pears Cornbread Oatmeal Raisin Cookie
26 Language Grilled Hamburgers & Hotdogs Oven Baked French Fries Assorted Relish Tray Baked Beans Strawberry Angel Food Cake	27 Buffalo Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Asparagus Garden Salad Peach Crisp/ Roll	28 Boiled Dinner (Sausage, Beans, Potatoes, Cabbage, & Corn) Cottage Cheese & Sliced Tomato Cherry Crisp Cornbread	29 Chicken Salad Pita Baked Chips Veggie Tray Coleslaw Sherbet	30 Salmon Patties Mashed Sweet Potatoes Green Beans Blueberry Pie Roll

Pokagon Students Win Elders Association Awards

Each April the Michigan Indian Elders Association incentive program awards $25.00 to native students for each semester they have perfect attendance and/ or straight As.

Congratulations to the following Pokagon students who entered the incentive program and won awards this year: Grant Adams, Chance Bivens, Ilie Bivens, Brea Brekley, Antonio Bogle, MaKayla Bogle, Colin Church, Cassandra Church, Andrew DeRose, Jackson DeRose, Daniel Dick, Robert Dick, Isaiah LeBlanc, Brianne Musel, Adam Walker, Madeline White, and Megan White.

Your Elders are so proud of all of you. Keep up the good work.

Newsletter Changes In Store

You may notice some changes in *Pokègnek Yajdanawa* over the next few months. The Pokagon Band now has a director of communications, and therefore more resources to spend writing articles, taking photos and keeping readers updated on newsworthy tribal events and stories.

Paige Risser began as director of communications May 10. With nearly twenty years experience in public relations and communication, she has worked for such organizations as the American Red Cross, the Peace Corps, the Boys and Girls Club and the University of Notre Dame.

Plans are underway to revise the design and augment the content of the newsletter, and we'd like to hear your feedback, suggestions, and story ideas for the future editions of *Pokègnek Yajdanawa*. Please send your comments and ideas to Paige Risser, director of communications, at newsletter@pokagonband-nsn.gov . Thank you.

To the Oshke-Kno-Kewéwen volunteers and the Pokagon community:


photo credit: Blue Desert Moon Photography

On behalf of the Oshke-Kno-Kewéwen Pow Wow Committee, we would like to thank everyone who helped make the Pow Wow a success and to make the weekend special for our most honored Veterans. This being our first Memorial Day event, it really hit home about how important it is for us to honor our veterans and our community. We received many praises and many recommendations throughout the weekend, most of all being that we should do the Pow Wow again next year.

Our Veterans worked very hard making sure they handled their new Eagle Staff in a good way. They received their teachings, feasted the staff, and honored the Pow Wow in presenting the staff to the entire community. It was amazing to see our people come together in such a wonderful way.

We would also like to say a big fat "migwech" to all the volunteers who assisted in making the Pow Wow such a big success. Especially to those of you who helped in the clean-up in the aftermath, you did an awesome job and we really could not have done it without your help.

Wéwéne and chi-migwech,
The Traditional Pow Wow Committee

The Election Board Seeks Board Member and Two Alternates

The 2010 General Election is underway and the Pokagon Band Election Board has one vacancy on the Board that needs to be filled. There are approximately nine months left to serve for this position. The Tribal Council is seeking citizens who are interested in serving on the Election Board. The Election Board is a five person Board whose members are appointed by the Tribal Council. Provided below is information regarding the Election Board and how to be considered for appointment.

Election Board Member Responsibilities. The Election Board is responsible for conducting Pokagon Band elections, maintaining a list of registered voters, and reviewing membership petitions, initiatives and referendums.

Qualifications. To be eligible for appointment to the Election Board, a Band member must:

1. Be an eligible voter of the Band;
2. Be at least twenty-five (25) years of age;
3. Not be incarcerated for any criminal conviction;
4. Not be presently a member of or candidate for Tribal Council, the Tribal Judiciary, the Ethics Board, or the Salary Commission; and
5. Not have been convicted within the last ten (10) years of a crime subject to imprisonment for a term of one (1) year or longer, excepting those crimes determined by the Election Board to relate to the furtherance of the Band's tribal sovereignty rights.

Appointment Process and Length of Term. Election Board members are appointed by the Tribal Council and serve terms of office of four years. Prior to any appointment, Tribal Council will make a determination whether the interested person meets the qualifications required to serve on the Election Board. In order to make this determination, all persons seeking appointment to the Election Board must undergo a limited criminal background check performed by the Pokagon Band Tribal Police to ensure that the candidate meets the qualifications to serve on the Election Board. Thus, all persons interested in appointment must complete an Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background.

Time Commitment. The time commitment required to prepare for and attend Board meetings, conduct elections, and perform the business of the Election Board will vary. Election Board members typically are busier during the time leading up to and during the general election in July of each year. The dates and times of Election Board meetings vary, but they typically occur after 5:00 pm. Elections are held on Saturdays. On average, a Board member can anticipate a time commitment of 5 to 10 hours per month, with the busiest time being the months of May, June, and July.

Stipend. Each Board member receives a stipend of $75 per meeting or if they are conducting an election, each Board member receives a $75 stipend.

Alternates. The Election Code provides for the appointment of two alternates to the Election Board. Currently, there are no alternates serving. The Council is looking to appoint alternates to the Election Board. Alternates are not members of the Election Board and not eligible for the stipend, but alternates do attend Election Board meetings as observers and assist the Election Board in fulfilling its responsibilities (however, they may not vote or exercise the authority of an Election Board member). Alternates must meet all eligibility requirements applicable to members of the Election Board. When vacancies arise on the Election Board, the Council first looks to alternates to fill any vacancy.

How to Apply and Deadline. Election Board Member. If you are interested in serving on the Election Board either as a member or as an alternate, you must provide a written statement of interest with your name, address, and telephone number and a completed Authorization to Conduct Criminal Background to Kelly Curran, the Executive Secretary to the Tribal Council, at the following address:

P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

In your written statement, please indicate whether you are interested in serving as a member of the Election Board or as an alternate. These positions will be open until filled by appointment of the Tribal Council.

Questions. If you have questions concerning the Election Board, please contact the Election Board offices at (269) 462-4236, (269) 782-9475, or (888) 782-9475. For additional information about the Election Board and the election process, you may also consult the Band's Election Code, which is posted on the Band's website at http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Four Winds Casino Resort and the Tribal Development Program are proud to announce:

Pokagon Youth Career Day

When: Saturday, July 31, 2010

Time: 9:00am-2:00pm

Where: Four Winds Casino Resort
Training Department in Human Resources Building

The purpose of the Youth Career Day is to introduce young adults to the career opportunities at Four Winds Casino Resort. This event will give participants insight and encourage them to follow a path during their high school and college years that will help them become successful in their adult working life.

Interested participants must RSVP– participation is limited to 30 students and is on a first come, first serve basis. Other students will be waitlisted.

Interested in Attending? Contact:

Torie Winchester
Administrative Assistant to
HR & Tribal Development
269-926-5244

Jennifer Lasiewicz
Manager of Tribal Placement & Development
269-926-5306

Teresa Magnuson
Career Development Specialist
269-926-5228

Toll Free: 1-866-4Winds1 ext. 5244

Requirements to attend the Pokagon Youth Career Day

Enrolled member of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.
Enrolled high school freshman-senior.
Interested participants must be accompanied by an adult.
(minimum of one adult to attend per two children)
Due to limited space, only those youth participating in Career Day will be able to attend.
Business casual attire is encouraged.

Small Business Financing Seminar Shows Business Owners the Money



Tribal entrepreneurs listen to an expert panel discuss small business financing.

On May 26 the Pokagon Band's Community Financial Empowerment program held a business seminar, which focused on finding sources of financing for small businesses. Dave Eifler and Dennis Carpenter of Fifth Third Bank outlined some of the basics of business financing. Angela Eiting of 1st Source Bank covered the differences between financing a startup versus existing business and franchises. Finally, Bob Jones of the non-profit Cornerstone Alliance covered whether there are grants available for small business owners.

After the presentations, participants asked a wide range of questions covering various topics which included collateral requirements, legal entities, and credit scores. The variety of responses from the presenters regarding the types of collateral and credit required really brought home the importance of researching different sources of financing from banks, to credit unions, to non-profits.

"The information will allow me to feel more comfortable when face to face with a lender," said one of the attendees.

Empowering citizens with information to feel more confident in making financial decisions is one of the main goals of the Community Financial Empowerment Program. The next seminar will be July 29 and will cover various aspects of marketing.

MARKETING SEMINAR

A seminar for Pokagon Band small business entrepreneurs who want to start or grow their business.

Presented by

Michiana SCORE Chapter #266

Coordinated by **Chemical Bank**
In Conjunction with **BDC and USDA Rural Development**

DATE: **Thursday, July 29, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

PLACE: **Pokagon Tribal Lodge, Dowagiac, Michigan**

PRESENTED by: **Jerry Marchetti, Bob Gius, Norm Riley, Tom Catanzarite and Fred Schmiedeler of Michiana SCORE. Over 150 years of professional business experience combined.**

Selecting the optimum marketing program to grow a business can be a challenging decision for a budding entrepreneur. This workshop is structured to identify the key considerations for such a selection and the specific questions entrepreneurs should answer approaching such a decision. SCORE counseling can assist the entrepreneur in making the right decisions.

PROGRAM: The two-hour seminar will center on the specific marketing and selling considerations that are key to start-up or grow a business:

- **8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Attendee registration and refreshments.**
- **9:00 – 10:30 a.m.**
  - **Marketing Basics**
  - **Selling Basics**
  - **Distribution of Products**
  - **Entrepreneur Success Story**
- **10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Panel Q & A discussion (Bring your questions)**

RESERVATIONS: Call Rose Waldschmidt at 269-462-4254. Seating is limited.

Women Focus on Wellness at Fifteenth Annual Women's Health Fair

"This is my first time attending, and I can't wait to do this again next year," said one attendee.

"Wow, this is great," said another.

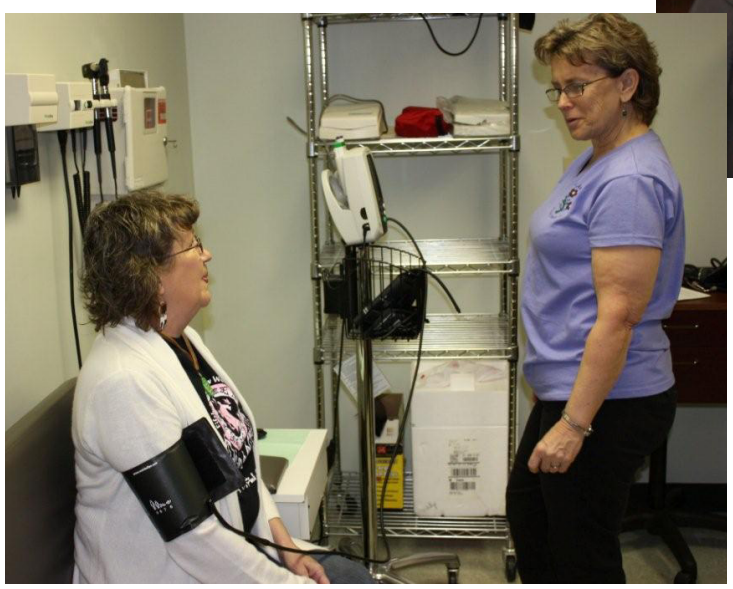
Quotes like these were repeated many times May 8 during a Pokagon Band health fair focusing on women's wellness. Forty women attended the event and participated in hearing screenings, blood sugar and pressure screenings and height and weight assessments. Attendees learned about health topics ranging from the benefits of high fiber foods to ergonomic health when working outdoors to massage therapy.

Marie Meyer discussed native healing arts, and there was a time to practice native beading skills. Brandy Arnold, Juanita Wall, and Beth Edelberg each donated ten inches of their hair to Locks of Love after their haircut session. Locks of Love is a nonprofit organization that uses donated hair to create hair prosthetics for financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term medical hair loss.

A raffle drawing of more than twenty prizes ended the afternoon, and Juanita Wall won the grand prize donated by Four Winds Casino Resort.

The Pokagon Band Health Department wants to thank all of the women who attended and became more aware of ways to promote good health and prevent illness. We look forward to seeing you—and others—next year.





Left, Susan Laursen gets her blood pressure taken by Betty Adams, a community health representative at the health clinic. Above, Melissa Potter and her daughter Molly show off their door prize bag from Four Winds Casino Resort.

TRIBAL NEWS

Enrollment Committee Seeking Member

The Enrollment Committee is looking for someone to fill a vacant seat. This person must have an eye for detail. The members are responsible for reviewing all applications and all documentation submitted to determine eligibility of membership.

The committee meets once a month, the second Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are held at the enrollment office located in the administration building at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI.

If you are interested, please send a letter of interest including your name, address and phone number to the Pokagon Band Enrollment Office, PO Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047.

Vendors Welcome at Hartford Farmer's Market

Looking for an affordable place to sell your crafts, produce or plants? The Hartford Farmer's Market in historic Ely Park has no vendor fee, and welcomes Tribal citizens to set up shop at their market. The market runs Sundays from June 13-September 26 between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Interested? Call the city of Hartford at 269-621-2477, or e-mail the city treasurer at citytreasurer@hartfordmi.com.

Citizens Invited to Pamp Memorial Pow Wow

The 34th Annual Leonard J. Pamp Memorial Pow Wow will be held August 14 and 15 at Rodgers Lake in Dowagiac. The doors will open at 9 a.m. both days, and the grand entries are scheduled for 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, and noon Sunday. Entrance fees are $5 for adults, and $2 for Elders and children; family and group rates are available. Organizers ask that attendees bring their own chairs. For information call 517-204-3016, or visit the Pow Wow's page on Myspace.com.

Tribal traders, please call 810-459-8258 for more information.

Join Relay for Life

Four Winds Casino Resort invites you to participate in this year's American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. This event raises money and awareness for the fight against cancer.

This year our Tribal Development Program will be organizing captains and teams for the Relay for Life walk scheduled for July 17 in Dowagiac and August 14 in New Buffalo. We are currently looking for volunteers to be a Team Member for either of the two dates. All Four Winds employees, Pokagon tribal citizens, friends and family are welcome to volunteer their time to participate. If you are interested, please call the Four Winds Relay for Life Hotline at **269-926-5254.**

If you would like further information about the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, you can visit their website at: relayforlife.org.

July Students of the Month

Submitted by Kateri O'Toole, Education Associate

Emily Goodrich is a fourth grader at Stark Elementary in Buchanan, Michigan. Her parents are Casey & William. She also has a brother named Will. The tribal activities she likes to participate in are the Pow Wows and crafts. Her favorite food is Ramen Noodles; her favorite toy is her stuffed animal, Pink Poppy. Her favorite sports are volleyball and softball. Emily would like to be a marine biologist when she grows up, and live in Florida. She is proud to be Native American because it makes her different, and she loves being unique. She also likes all the trips she gets to go on.

Maygon Elmer is 10 years old and a fifth grader at Bellevue Elementary in Bellevue, Michigan. Her parents are George III & Mandy Elmer. Her siblings are Morgan (age 14), Mirian (age 8), Madison (age 2), and George IV at three months. Maygon's favorite foods are green beans, and of course, fry bread. Her favorite toy is her Nintendo Ds and Wii. She enjoys beading, and keeping her bedroom spotless. She is interested in running track when she reaches middle school. Maygon is still thinking about what she would like to do when she gets older but she is leaning toward nursing. She is proud to be a Native American because she likes learning about her culture and language.

Andrew Davidson is a senior at Clarkston High School in Clarkston, Michigan. His parents are Dan & Sheila (Wiggins) Davidson and his grandparents are Jim & Dora Wiggins. His siblings are Ian and Reilley. The tribal activities that he has participated in are summer camp and attending the annual Pow Wows. Andrew's favorite things are the Japanese language and culture. He is currently a fourth year Japanese language student; he will be visiting Japan this summer with a group of students from high school. He also studies Korean Karate Tang Soo Do. He would like to be a veterinarian when he gets older.

Eliana Parker is 11 years old. She lives in Frazier Park, California and is currently a seventh grader at Valley Oaks Charter School. She is a straight A student and has exceptional state STAR scores. She has participated in six years of dance, three years of gymnastics and was in a recital after each year, and really enjoys swimming in the summer months. She would like to be a photographer, a professional chef, and a Sunday school teacher when she grows up. Eliana is the daughter of Jerold and Ranella Parker, her sister is Esther Parker, and her uncle is Guy Brasmer. Her grandparents are Ramona Peterson and Walter Carlson, Joel and Virginia Parker. Her great-grandparents were Michael and Cecil Wilson. Eliana's favorite foods are stuffed crust pepperoni pizza and kiwi fruit. She enjoys playing many board games and her favorite is the game of Life. Eliana enjoys going to Calvary Chapel Church where she has made many friends. She enjoyed going to a Pow Wow where she learned about her culture and enjoyed dancing in the round dance. "I love to play with my cat Tiger, play Wii games, and listen to Christian music," said Eliana. She is, "proud to be a Native American for many reasons, most of which involve the magnificent heritage of my people."

Upcoming Events from the Department of Education

June

30-July 2 Women's drum and medicine teachings and talking circle with Barb Peltier

30-July 2 Traditional healing appointments with Jake Pine

July

2 Head Start application deadline

3 Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine

6-29 Summer School for Grades K-6

6-29 Summer Youth Internship

9 Senior Awards Banquet

12-16 Potawatomi Summer Language Immersion Camp, Hannahville

28-30 Traditional healing appointments with Jake Pine

28-30 Women's drum and medicine teachings and talking circle with Barb Peltier

31 Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine

August

1 Back to School Launch

16-20 Potawatomi Summer Language Immersion Camp, Hannahville

25-27 Traditional healing appointments with Jake Pine

25-27 Women's drum and medicine teachings and talking circle with Barb Peltier

28 Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine

September

5-6 Backpack distribution

5 Pokagon Alumni Breakfast

5 Gifting of graduate blankets at Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow

For more detailed information, please call 269-782-0887.

Head Start Still Accepting Wait List Applications

Children must be three years of age by December 1, 2010 to be eligible for the 2010-2011 Head Start school year. If you are interested, please contact the office and we will mail you a pre-application. Applications must be returned by June 1, 2010 with proof of all household income, proof of TANF Assistance (if applicable), and a copy of the Tribal ID to be considered for enrollment. Please contact Sarah Hyatt at the center at (269) 783-0026, or (866) 250-6573 toll free, with any questions about enrollment for the upcoming year or to have a pre-application mailed to you.

Our school days are Monday-Thursday from 8:30-2:30. We provide transportation in limited areas with central pick-up and drop-off locations. We serve a nutritious breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. Potawatomi language and culture are incorporated throughout each day. The program does accept children with disabilities.

Volunteers welcome

Head Start is always looking for volunteers. You do not have to have a relative attending the program to be a volunteer; anyone can be a volunteer for the program! There are many ways to volunteer: spending time at the center, storytelling, leading a craft activity, chaperoning field trips, riding on the bus, or helping with language and culture. The program also runs male involvement activities for fathers, step-fathers, grandfathers, uncles, big brothers, cousins, etc. This is a great way for the men to get together and spend time with the children. If you are interested, please call to discuss your ideas and availability.

Upcoming Events

Friday, July 2, 2010—Application deadline.

Tuesday, September 7, 2010—First day of school for the 2010-2011 year.

Donations

Donations are greatly appreciated. Items that we are always looking for: play dough, wet wipes, outdoor play toys, sidewalk chalk bubbles, glue sticks, Lysol wipes art supplies, quart and gallon size Ziploc bags, hats and gloves.

Enrichment Labs Completed for the School Year

By Rebecca Accoe, K-12 Resource Specialist

This year the enrichment labs of the Department of Education's K-12 program were full of new and old faces. Students and staff have wrapped up the labs for the 2009-2010 school year, and they finished with a bang.

Dowagiac K-fifth grade students made time for their studies, checked out books from Pokagon Band's library, and participated in numerous activities held at the Head Start building. There was great participation with kids involved from all four of Dowagiac's elementary schools. This K-fifth lab ended on Monday, May 24.

The sixth through twelfth grade students at the Dowagiac enrichment lab also made use of the Pokagon Band library and the computer lab for their studies. They enjoyed solving riddles to win Native American or educational prizes. Some students participated in a creative writing project which involved writing in their journals about famous quotes from natives and non-natives alike. They extended this by telling if they agreed or disagreed with the quotes, and if they had ever had any personal experience with the topic being discussed.

The K-12 Hartford lab was held at Red Arrow Elementary. Students there completed their homework on their own, and received extra support when needed. Then each student read accelerated reading books and took guided computer tests to check their comprehension. Each time the student passed a test, they received a Native American prize. The Dowagiac sixth through twelfth and the Hartford K- 12 enrichment labs each ended on Wednesday, June 2.

All students were effective in extending their studies and relating it to their culture. The Pokagon Band is so proud of their students' accomplishments, and can't wait for 2010-2011 school year to roll around.



Friends and fun with the game Blokus, what more could you ask for? Left to right: Carson Rice, Sarah Rice, Mijiikwis Wabaninmkee and Inteus Dixon.



Caleb Jones gets help with his homework from Derek Carpenter.

Final Reminder for School Supply Reimbursements for 2009 - 2010

Reimbursements for school supplies for the 2009 – 2010 school year are available until July 31. If you haven't applied for the $50 per student, please contact Connie Baber or Penny Brant (269-782-0887 or 888-330-1234) for the forms. Your child must be registered with the program, and that is a quick process. The original receipts must accompany the form.

Graduates, Share Your Joy

We will be publishing photographs and write-ups of the 2010 graduates. Please contact Connie or Penny in the Department of Education (269-782-0887 and 888-330-1234) for the forms or information. The deadline is August 2, 2010.

Enjoy Your Library

New books keep appearing, as do DVDs and CDs. We are so pleased to have this comfortable and inspiring space, a perfect place for you to bring your family, or to steal away a bit of time on your own. Come join us.

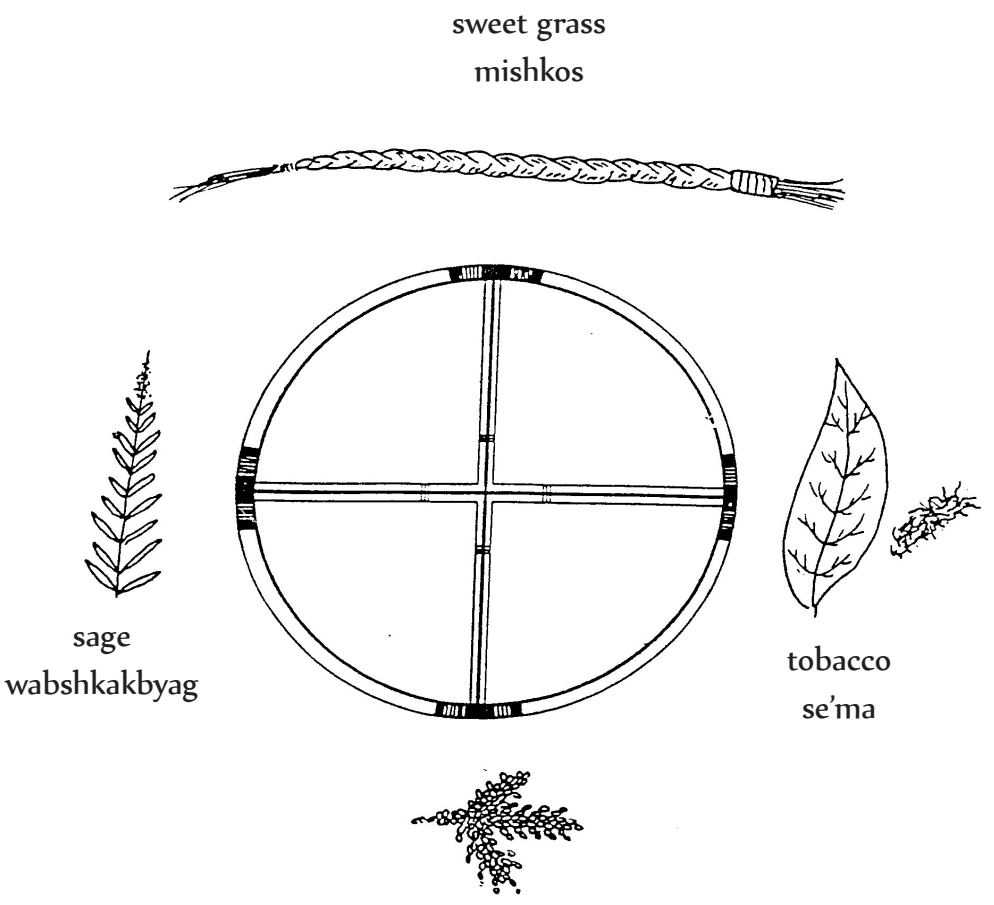
Language and Culture: Medicine Wheel Lessons

North—Wej-ksenjak

The North is the place of winter, of white snows that remind us of the white hair of our elders. It is the place of true wisdom.

The white polar bear teaches us strength and survival. We pray for the strength that will keep us well, and keep us from sickness. Survival sometimes means physical survival: that there is enough food and wood to keep us warm. We also need to pray that we survive emotionally and mentally: against loneliness or depression, and that our spirit and heart are strong.

The medicine wheel teaches us about the Four Sacred Plants. these gifts are for us to use to help keep us in balance and harmony physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.



Language classes on July 8 and July 22 will be in Dowagiac in the Administration Building break room from 7-9 p.m. Use the back entrance please.
Language classes on July 1 and July 29 will be in South Bend. The bus leaves at 5:30 pm from the Administration Building if you would like to ride along. Bring money, we will stop for dinner on the way.
There will be no language class on July 15.
Elders' language classes are held at Elders Hall every Monday at 11am.

They Graduate - We Celebrate Please Join Us

The Pokagon Band Department of Education Awards Banquet honoring our 2009-2010 High School Grads and GED Recipients

Friday, July 9, 2010
6:45 – 9:30 p.m.
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
Awards at 8:00 p.m.

Southwestern Michigan College
Fred L. Mathews Library and Conference Center East
58900 Cherry Grove Road
Dowagiac, MI

Please contact Penny Brant at 888-330-1234 with any questions.

Skono Gizhguk—Go to School Day
Sunday, August 1, 2010
11:30 am – 4:00 pm

Come join us for a creative, informative, and energizing family day at Rodgers Lake.
Be a part of celebrating our students with awards and recognizing them for their fine work in the 2009-2010 school year and in Pokagon summer programs.

Enjoy a meal in honor of our students and families. Register for the K-12 Program and get school supplies. Attend fun workshops. Be a part of the awards.

Tribal Council Pavilion
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac, MI

The Wandering Spirit: Reactive Attachment Disorder

By Judy D. Pamp (Waabanoqua), Assistant Director of the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

Editor's Note: Members of the Family Welfare Commission came across this essay and were inspired by its good teachings. They asked it be reprinted in *Pokègnek Yajdanawa* to remind readers of the importance of our children.

In the teachings of the Anishinabek, we are taught that we are all spiritual beings who asked the creator to have a physical life experience. The creator brings together our spiritual parents and nine months later a new spirit is born in the physical realm. The creator then breathes life into us upon our arrival to the physical realm.

Our birth day is the start of a new journey. We have been given the gift of life as a physical being. What happens to the spiritual being whose physical life is marred by neglect, abandonment, and abuse due to drug and alcohol use by his birth parents? Can the spirit recover to thrive in the physical world?

As an infant and young child you might have been bounced around between family members, you may have been taken in by your grandparents, or like countless others you may ended up a ward of the court placed in foster homes. Some of our lost children are even put into guardianships and adopted out to other families. Do our children ever really recover from the early trauma in their lives?

I cannot speak for all of our disadvantaged children. I will share with you the story of a few. I took in two children who were in need of nurturing seven years ago. Months later we were introduced to their new brother. The children I speak of are victims of the destruction caused by drug and alcohol abuse inflicted upon them by their birth parents. I figured all the children really needed was love and someone who would help meet their needs.

The children will never know their birth fathers. They were born to fathers who were only out to have a good time. The irresponsibility of their birth fathers put them at risk from day one. Unfortunately, the birth mother couldn't meet her needs or the needs of her children.

At first, the older boys would eat garbage and drink from the toilet. The oldest brother would whimper and moan in his sleep. Nightly they shredded their blankets making a nest where they huddled together. We went through a lot of blankets! The youngest brother would stare off into space, almost as if the spirit had already left his physical body. I would ask the spiritual being to return and promise I would do my best to guide him. Tragically that blank stare stayed with him until age three.

I stated journaling about the different behaviors I witnessed. After working twenty-five years with children it became apparent I was witnessing extreme obscure behaviors. I kept telling everyone involved in the children's lives that something was wrong.



Judy Pamp introduces Tobias, the youngest of the three boys, to the newest member of their family, his niece Clara Blue Sky Begay.

The eldest was only three when we first met. He approached me with caution and sadness. He was looking for a mother for his little brother he told me. He was willing to come along to watch over his brother, but he wasn't going to have any part of being a family nor was he willing to trust anyone. He was quiet and seldom showed happiness, nor could you console him when hurt.

The middle child was a petite, handsome charmer. No matter how long he lived with us, he still had no sense of who he needed to stay close to. Anyone with food or a smile was someone he was willing to leave with. He was quick on his feet and a wandering soul.

It took a long time to figure out what was causing the extreme behaviors. The boys often acted like wild animals. Their idea of problem solving involved the extremities of emotions. Anything could set off the middle son who would then scream thirty minutes or more up to nine times a day. Every time the middle child screamed, the infant would shake uncontrollably. The older brother would watch and pace. Not knowing what was happening, the oldest brother would look on with anger in his eyes towards whoever was near his younger brother.

The older boys were diagnosed with Reactive Attachment Disorder after about four years of searching for answers. They are wounded children traumatized by their birth parents. They not only suffered from the trauma they had lived through, but they also showed no signs of attaching to any human being. They are children who are unnerved by a loving hug or kiss. They would rather cause chaos and destroy a peaceful home then trust that a loving relationship is real. I know you are in disbelief. Some of you might even believe I am exaggerating. I too would not believe it if I wasn't dealing with it every day of our life.

The youngest son shows signs of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. After years of counseling he learned to smile and can use the full range of emotions. It's extremely sad to think the damage done to this human being was inflected upon him while he was still a fetus in the womb. We are not afforded time to be sad or judgmental in our home, nor is that our intent. We are too busy trying to arm the children with life skills, surviving the next tornado of emotional outburst, plus enjoying the happy moments.

So the question we all want answered is, "Is there any hope?" The oldest son is showing signs of bonding. He however uses anger to sabotage the bond and weaken our relationships. The middle son is still a charmer and has fewer emotional outbursts. They still hoard food, steal the most peculiar items, struggle with demonstrating the seven grandfather teachings, and do not believe anyone will be there to meet their needs in life. They have also shown signs of happiness and every once in a while compassion.

I wish I could tell you there is a happy ending to this story, but only time will tell. I hope by sharing our story we can help other young spirits who are about to start their journey in the physical world. If you are pregnant, stay away from drugs and alcohol. What you put in your body, you also put into the baby's body. Please give the young spiritual being a chance for a good life on earth.

If you have been told you might be a father, make the commitment to find the truth, and then be there for your child. You might be the only stability in the child's life. Every new parent should seek help to learn about parenting. Our community has many wonderful grandparents, aunts, uncles, and programs that can help you learn the skills you need to be an effective loving parent, plus prepare you for the stressful parenting moments.

I am concerned about the future of these wounded spirits and all of our children. What kind of a future will we have if we continue to have drug and alcohol babies, children suffering from abandonment issues, or traumatized children? What kind of a future will we have, if we don't stop the cycle of abuse and neglect? It takes the village to raise a child; together we can make a difference.

Native Foster Parents Needed

Our traditions tell us the most sacred beings among our Anishnabe people are our children and our Elders. Our children have just come from being with the Creator in the Spirit World, and our Elders are facing the West on their way to the Spirit World to be with the Creator again.

As a Tribal nation, we recognize our responsibility "to provide for the welfare, care and protection of the children," through our Child Protection Code. "The care and custody of the Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, as such the welfare of its children is of paramount importance to the Band" says our Family Welfare Commission Ordinance.

There are no words in the Potawatomi language for the term "foster parents." Native people have had to adapt, and the use of this term is now a necessity. Sometimes within our family framework there is turmoil and our children suffer. Some of our children need care and protection. Do you have in your spirit and your home a place for a child who needs a temporary family? Have you ever thought about being a foster parent?

We realize you will have many questions about foster parenting and we urge you to contact our Social Services Department at (269) 782-8998 and ask for Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, our Indian Child Welfare Worker.

Changes Made to the Band's Burial Fund Code

The Tribal Council amended the Pokagon Band Burial Fund Code. For a copy of an amended version of the Burial Fund Code, please visit the Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov. Provided below is summary of the amendments.

Eligibility for the Burial Benefit– Changes to Eligibility Requirements Regarding Children Who Are Not Enrolled

Children of Pokagon Band members who are eligible for enrollment with the Band, but not yet enrolled, are covered by the Burial Benefit only if they are 5 years of age or younger. The Burial Benefit now covers Stillborn Children.

Payment of Burial Benefit – Changes to Payment Structure Regarding Distribution of Excess Funds

Previously, after the payment of monument, funeral, and funeral luncheon costs, any Burial Benefit funds remaining were distributed. The Burial Benefit of $10,000 will now be used solely to pay for the cost of a monument, funeral, and luncheon. After the payment of those three expenses, no excess funds will be distributed.

Reimbursement for Prepayment of Funeral and/or Monument Expenses – New Provision Permits Reimbursement for Prepaid Expenses Now in Limited Circumstances

If a Pokagon Band member prepaid the cost of his or her funeral and/or monument expenses via an irrevocable agreement with a funeral home or monument company on or before May 8, 2010, then the Pokagon Band will reimburse the Pokagon Band member the cost of such prepaid expenses, in accordance with the dollar limitations provided for funeral and monument expenses in the Code. Following reimbursement by the Band of the prepayment expenses, the member will not be covered by the Burial Benefit upon his or her death, to the extent the Band previously reimbursed the member for such expenses.

This is only a summary. Please review the Burial Fund Code for more specific details. If you have additional questions concerning these amendments or the Burial Fund in general, please contact the Band's Department of Social Services at (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777.

HOUSING

Citizens Take Advantage of Tribal Down Payment Assistance Program

Ruthie and Lee Saldivar both grew up in Michigan, but in 1975 they moved to California. For 35 years they lived and raised their family in the San Diego area, where Mr. Saldivar was a trucker and worked with horses, and Mrs. Saldivar was employed in the hospitality and service industries.

Despite living on the West coast, Ruthie Saldivar always kept up with news from her tribe. When Four Winds opened, her husband suggested the family move back to the area, but she wasn't quite ready. Eventually their son Ruben Saldivar and their daughter Cindy Gonzalez took positions at Four Winds, and her mind began to change.

"We were getting older," said Mrs. Saldivar. "And it seemed like this would be a good place for us."

The many programs and services the Pokagon Band offers to citizens helped her make up her mind. She had read about the down payment assistance available from the housing department, so she called to get more information.

The Saldivars began working with occupancy specialist Wendy Lipscomb-Hatcher. Their first step was applying for a mortgage with their bank, and then Mr. Saldivar contacted a realtor in Michigan. He and the agent looked at dozens of houses until they settled on the right one.



Ruthie and Lee Saldivar

According to Lipscomb-Hatcher, citizens need to have a credit rating of more than 620, and any bankruptcy filings must have been discharged for at least two years to qualify for down payment assistance. Plus, the applicants are asked to attend a home ownership course.

"Studies show that the more potential homeowners know about the mortgage process, the less likely they are to default or get foreclosed on their mortgage," she said. "It all boils down to the more information you have about homeownership, the more equipped you will be to prevent or handle problems that occur."

A tribal-approved home inspector is required to examine any property before the purchase. Eligible citizens can receive up to 20 percent to put down and 3 percent for closing costs, all dependent on the home's purchase price.

The Saldivars finally closed on their new home in early February, and were able to move in.

"You can't think you're going to go into this without any money," cautions Mrs. Saldivar. "You have to have a backup."

"It's a good deal," says Mr. Saldivar. "The course was a lot of help; I knew exactly how much house I could buy. It was worth it."

Being back in this area is gratifying to the Saldivars for lots of reasons. Not only are two of her three children and two grandchildren in the area, Ruthie Saldivar is becoming reacquainted with relatives she hasn't seen in years. And the new energy and cohesion in the tribe is exciting to her. She plans to get involved in activities, and perhaps begin to study Nishnabmowen.

"I think it's great to see what's happening, and see what's changing."

Donation of Paper Products from DesignWare Arrives

DesignWare, a division of American Greetings Corporation, has been a generous partner to the Pokagon Band in the past, with a donation of a semi-truckload of paper tableware products. The Kalamazoo-based plant is closing down within the year, and again offered to provide the tribe with a donation, this time two semi-truck loads of paper plates, cups, napkins, children's activity books and table covers.

This useful contribution-valued at $196,000-provides supplies for Pokagon Band departments, the Head Start program, the Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow Wow, the Reaffirmation Day celebration and other community events. Pictured at left with the donation are housing resource developer Valerie Janowski, left, and Tribal citizen Tom Topash, right. Mr. Topash arranged for the pallets of boxes in the shipment to be unloaded and stored at the Inovateus Business Center in Cassopolis, Michigan where his business office is located.





A First: Obama Adds a Native American Policy Advisor

President Obama has taken the unprecedented step of adding a Native American policy advisor to his Domestic Policy Council. Kimberly Teehee, pictured above, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, was appointed the first White House senior policy advisor for Native American affairs, and will advise the President on issues impacting Indian Country. The President, who has said he hopes to strengthen and build on the Nation-to-Nation relationship between the United States and tribal nations, has asked Teehee, 41, to provide a voice for Native Americans during policy making decisions. "Job creation is a huge priority," said Teehee. "And we're working to address obesity: As many as 50% of American Indians suffer from it." But she says the future is far from bleak; more than $3 billion was directed to Indian tribes through the Recovery Act, and the 2011 federal budget provides a 5% increase over 2010.

Primary Care Physician Shortage Affects Indian Country, Career Potential for Natives

A generation ago, about half of all medical students went into general medicine rather than choosing to specialize. Today it's down to 30 percent. With large medical school loans hanging over their heads, many physicians make that choice based on income potential: specialists earn far more—sometimes more than $100,000—per year than general practioners.

According to Mark Trahant, a member of Idaho's Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and a media fellow examining the Indian Health Service and its relevance to the national health care reform debate at the Kaiser Family Foundation, Congress is addressing this shortage of primary care physicians with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. One provision of the act: primary care physicians will be eligible for student loan repayment for working in underserved areas like the Indian health system. The Congressional Research Service has reported that Indian health care has a high vacancy rate in many of its health professions, 20 percent for physicians, dentists, and nurses,.

The new law also opens up a number of options for American Indians and Alaska Natives interested in health careers: scholarship and loan repayment programs, incentives designed to encourage health professionals to work in Indian health, funds for continuing education and new demonstration projects using students. There will be new grants for "teaching health centers" and for expanding or creating primary care residency programs. The law also allows for newly accredited or expanded primary care residency programs.

First U.S. Native TV Channel to Launch

The San Bernardino, California-based KVCR-TV will launch the nation's first 24-hour American Indian television channel next spring. The channel will air programs on the history, culture and current reality of tribes across the country, said James Ramos, chairman of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, whose reservation is nearby and whose tribe donated $6 million to fund the station for the first three years.

The station will be a PBS affiliate and plans to expand the channel to national cable and satellite television in 2013. Organizers have already begun talking with executives of other PBS stations about getting the channel on their local cable systems.

A national Canadian Indian channel, the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, has been broadcasting for several years.

KVCR and San Manuel have been collaborating on television programs for several years. In April, KVCR aired a San Manuel-sponsored four-part series on the history of California's Indians. San Manuel-sponsored series in 2006 and 2007 focused on the tribe's history and worldview. Below, San Manuel elder Pauline Murillo is interviewed by producer Frank Blanquette for a recent KVCR television series on American Indian history and culture.



Tornado Damages Elders Village Homes



cleared the roads. As the repairs continue, the Housing Department will be holding weekly Friday meetings to communicate with the residents on the status of the efforts.

No tribal citizens were injured following the severe weather that swept through southwest Michigan late Saturday, June 5. But nineteen of the twenty homes in Kékyajek Odanek, the Pokagon Band's Elders Village, sustained varied damage.



By Sunday evening, the tribal government had worked with local utilities to restore power and had boarded broken windows, covered damaged roofing, and

Per Capita Updates Needed

The following list of citizens have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office for Per Capita payment distribution and 2009 Christmas checks. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band enrollment office to verify the address.

1499 Peter Cusi Gibbons-Ballew
3282 Daniel Sanderson
0083 John Dylan Watson
0406 Michael Lynn Hewitt
0433 Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
0434 Thomas Charles Abercrombie
0857 Peter John Ramirez
1283 Jodi Lynn Burfield
1445 Michael David Bush
1446 Bobby Marcus Haynes
1506 Michaela Lynne Canard
2565 Michael James Martin
2795 Edward F Cushway
2805 Isabel Marie Campos

The following list of citizens have not contacted the enrollment office to verify their valid addresses to receive their 2009 Christmas checks.

BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
RUBY TUESDAY BALEY
MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
NICHOLAS RAY BENNETT
FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
IAN THOMAS CURREY
PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

Mno-Bmadsen Honors Tom Topash

The Mno-Bmadsen Board of Directors recognized Tom Topash for dedication and hard work in his administrative support during start-up of the new economic development enterprise created by Tribal Council.

The Board presented Mr. Topash with a resolution of appreciation and a fish carving that acknowledges Tom's Fish Clan heritage. While the Board recently hired Executive Director Calli Berg to manage operations, the Mno-Bmadsen has much to accomplish and welcomed Tom's continuing support of economic development efforts.

During the presentation, Chairman Eugene Magnuson referred to the first Indian givers—native American ancestors who accepted gifts only when able and willing to return the honor with gifts of equal or greater value. While considered derogatory by many today, the board celebrated the original intent and true spirit of Indian giving by bestowing their gift of appreciation on Mr. Topash for his invaluable gift of service to Mno-Bmadsen.



The Mno-Bmadsen Board of Directors with Tom Topash during their May board meeting in the Tribal Lodge. L-R: Dave Johnson, Kurt Wiesemenes, Treasurer Greg Ballew, Mr. Topash, Chairman Eugene Magnuson, Amy Klemm Verbos, Secretary Julie Farver, and Vice-Chairman Alan Molnar.

POKAGON BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS

TRIBAL COUNCIL
P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047 Telephone: 269-782-6323 / Fax: (269) 783-9625

My last article focused on veterans, but this month I want to mention the Medal of Honor recipients of native heritage. We can be proud, as a people, of the nearly twenty native Medal of Honor recipients who received the U.S. military's highest distinction. The Medal of Honor is awarded for military heroism above and beyond the call of duty, and pays tribute to soldiers who showed extraordinary bravery in the face of the enemy. Some made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. You hear from time to time native service men comment, "We lost our land once. We will not do it again." Considering that native soldiers who served in WWI were not even U.S. citizens, that is quite a statement.

Since the last newsletter I have had the occasion to participate in two great events. The first was our inaugural Oshke-Kno-Kewewen traditional Pow Wow honoring the Eagle Staff. It was a privilege and honor for me to walk the Eagle Staff into the arena for the first time. Thanks to all who participated in making this event happen, and to the families who have an Eagle feather on the Staff, I thank you for the service of that person represented.

The second opportunity was to take part in the "Lest We Forget: An American Veterans Tribute" kickoff event. The day started at Four Winds on Wednesday morning June 15 with a continental breakfast, introductions of the event organizers, opening comments and a motorcycle motorcade with over 300 bikes. Active military, law enforcement, and a few vintage military vehicles accompanied the motorcade. They traveled throughout Berrien County before ending at Dickenson Stadium at St. Joseph High School. The event features a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial located in our nation's capital and many other Vietnam era displays. I was honored when asked if I would address the veterans who gathered for this event. It is due to their service that we are allowed to enjoy the freedoms that we have here today. It is very hard for me to understand how we could fail, when we do, to properly care for our veterans.


photo credit: Hewitt Photography

Chairman Matt Wesaw, right, with Head Veteran George Martin, left, and the Eagle Staff at the Oshke-Kno-Kewewen traditional Pow Wow over Memorial Day weekend.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest employee, Jim Coleman, Director of Housing. Jim comes to us by way of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe in Mount Pleasant. Jim has spent over thirteen years working with Native Americans, and brings a wealth of knowledge and understanding in his fields of expertise. I look forward to working with him as he takes our Housing Department to the next level. Please give him a warm welcome when you see him.

Next month is election time. Please participate and vote for the candidate of your choice. It is your government. In addition, please review our committees, boards, and commissions. If you are interested in joining, talk with someone and place an application. We are always looking for new people to serve and for citizens to gain an understanding of what makes your government work.

In closing, I hope you all enjoy the upcoming holidays, and please remember our veterans and those members of the military currently serving. The freedom we enjoy is a direct result of their willingness to sacrifice. As always, my phone is always on and my door is always open. If you are in the area please stop in and say hi.

Matt

Tribal Council Calendar of Events

July

6 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
10 Tribal Election Day
12 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
13 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
19 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
20 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
22 Tribal Council Special Session, 5 p.m., Lodge
26 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
27 Financial Review Board, 1 p.m., Four Winds

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
Tribal Council E-Mail Directory
Office Phone: 1-888-376-9988

CHAIRMAN	VICE CHAIRMAN
Matt Wesaw Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov 517-719-5579	Butch Starrett Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-2901

SECRETARY	TREASURER
Faye Wesaw Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-635-0948	Troland Clay Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-5205

Members At Large	
Steve Winchester Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-0119	Michaelina Magnuson Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-5616
Alice Overly Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-240-8041	John Warren John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-214-2610
Marchell Wesaw Marchell.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-240-1570	Marie Manley Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-214-2609

Elders Representative	Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
Lynn Davidson Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-240-8092	Kelly Curran Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-782-8998

Pokagon Band Mailing Address
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Tribal Council
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-6323 /
Toll Free (888) 376-9988
FAX (269) 782-9625

Elders Program
53237 Townhall Rd.
(269) 782-0765 /
Toll Free (800) 859-2717
FAX (269) 782-1696

Administrative / Information Technology
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-6882

Social Services
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-4295

Health Services / Behavioral Health
57392 M 51 South
(269) 782-4141 /
Toll Free (888) 440-1234
FAX (269) 782 - 8797

Environmental
32142 Edwards St.
(269) 782-9602 Phone
(269) 783-0452 Fax

Education and Training
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-0887/
FAX (269) 782-0985

Finance Department
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-1028

Enrollment
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-1763 /
FAX (269) 782-1964

Commodities
(269) 782-3372 /
Toll Free (888) 281-1111
FAX (269)782-7814

Head Start
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0026/
(866)-250-6573
FAX (269) 782-9795

South Bend Area Office
310 W. Mc Kinley Ave. Suite 300
Mishawaka, IN. 46545
(574)-255-2368 /
Toll Free (800) 737-9223
FAX (574) 255-2974

Housing Department
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0443 /
FAX (269) 783-0452

Tribal Court
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0505 /
FAX (269) 783-0519

Tribal Police
58155 M-51 South
(269) 782-2232 /
Toll Free (866-399-0161)
FAX (269) 782-7988

Election
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-9475 /
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Human Resources / Compliance
56862 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998

Spouses Of Tribal Members Can Now Apply for The Temporary Staffing Pool

The Pokagon Band Temporary Pool will begin accepting applications not only from Tribal Members but also their spouses. Native American preference still applies, meaning, the spouses will be considered if a Pokagon Band member is unavailable for the position.

The temporary positions pay $8.50 per hour.

Tribal Members interested in assisting with filling temporary vacancies on an "on-call" basis are encouraged to call Lori Harris at (269) 782-8998 or 800-517-0777. Employment applications are available at the Pokagon Band Administration Office at 58620 Sink Road Dowagiac.

Applicants must pass the following background checks:
Criminal background Motor vehicle report
Work history References
Tribal membership (spouse of enrolled tribal member)
DSH clearance (if applicable)

You must submit to and pass a Drug and Alcohol Test.

Temporary personnel will be subject to applicable rules of the Pokagon Band Personnel Policy Handbook.

This is an excellent opportunity for our Membership to occasionally supplement their income, gain experience while, aiding us in continuing smooth delivery of services.

Please call for an appointment today!



Tribal Council Meeting Cancellations

Please check the Pokagon website at:
www.pokagonband-nsn.gov to confirm that a
meeting has not been cancelled
before attending.

You may also call 1-888-782-2426
to check for cancellation.

Pokagon Band Administrative Office
58620 Sink Rd.
Dowagiac, MI 49047

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

August 2010

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Community Center project takes shape



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Pokagon students make the most of their summer



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Get ready for the Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow



Pokagon Band Artist Receives Michigan Heritage Award

John Pigeon tells the story of the time he took his young daughter on an outing to plant squash and corn in a remote field. He remembers his daughter questioning why they went so far off to plant fruit and vegetable seeds that they would never harvest.

"I told her about the animals and living things that would come eat the plants and their fruit," he says. "And how they would spread the seeds far and wide.

"You never know where it's going to lead," he adds. "That's why I do some of what I do."

Pigeon, a Pokagon Band citizen and seventh generation black ash basket maker, plants the seeds of culture, tradition, artistry and community by teaching his craft and making connections all around the Great Lakes region. In February the state of Michigan announced that he received the Michigan Heritage Award, and he'll be honored at a special ceremony at the Great Lakes Folk Festival in Lansing August 14. The award acknowledges his role as a community leader and as a tradition bearer.

"Our people have been making baskets for a thousand years," says Pigeon. "Even without knowing me, my ancestors passed this gift down to me. And I want my grandchildren and their grandchildren to hold onto these things just like I did."

Pigeon teaches basket making with the goal of helping make people self sufficient. He holds community weaving sessions and hosts art markets, providing a way for artists to sell their work. His respect for the trees as life-giving beings is obvious. His work will be featured in an upcoming exhibit called My Ash Makes More Than Baskets.



John Pigeon will be honored for his basket making artistry August 14.
Courtesy of Michigan State University Museum, photo by Winnie Wabanimkee.

"There are so many things this tree can do: the ash bark covers lodges, its saplings create the frames for lodges, branches can be made into pipe stems and bows and arrows to sustain us with hunting," he says. "That one plant can provide all these things for us is just amazing to me."

He's hopeful that a remedy will be found to the problem plaguing ash trees: the emerald ash borer.

"There's a teaching there: if we don't care for what we have, we'll lose it."

Pigeon's work has taken him all over the country. He has been an artist in residence at the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona. In 2006 he was a part of a group of sixty master basket makers to be invited to Washington, D.C. for the Smithsonian Institute's Folklife Festival. He remembers sitting under a tent with native artists from as far away as Alaska, Hawaii, Maine and Florida. The master artisans shared ideas and materials, and learned from one another about each groups' heritage and techniques.

"I told my son, 'Look at all this power in one place,'" he recalls. "It reminded me how close we are to the past."

While on that trip, the artists visited the National Archives, and Pigeon and his son looked through archived Potawatomi basket collections. While they saw similar techniques, there were certain differences, too.

"It reminded me of where I came from," he says.

Pigeon plans to continue his teaching and traveling. And who knows where those scattered seeds of tradition and artistry may take root and flourish?



The elders gathered at the tribal lodge pavilion July 15 for their annual summer picnic. They feasted on barbecued chicken and ribs, fruit, salads and an array of desserts. Pictured along with Jean Mollett is Father Kevin Covert, left, a Chippewa, the new priest for Sacred Heart and Holy Maternity parishes who was invited to attend the picnic to get to know some of his Pokagon parishioners.

Elders Stampede to Tennessee on Spring Bus Trip





Despite the hot weather and more than a few bus hiccups, forty Elders enjoyed their trip to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee June 15-17. The group attended Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede dinner and show. The event included the carriage room opening act and a main show in the arena with horse performances, dramatic lighting, music and fireworks. Everyone was treated to a four-course dinner and a dessert following the show.

At left, the group gathered for a photo before the show. Right, some members of the group get creative to beat the heat during one of several unscheduled bus stops thanks to transmission and air conditioning problems. The next trip will be to the Potawatomi Gathering in Oklahoma August 5-7.

August 2010 Pokagon Band Elder's Lunch Menu

PLEASE CALL THE DAY BEFORE if you are not a regular attendee for meals
MEALS SUBJECT TO CHANGE 269-782-0765 or 800-859-2717 Meal Service Begins @ 12:00 Noon

Monday	*Tuesday*	*Wednesday*	*Thursday*	*Friday*
2 VACATION CLOSED	3 VACATION CLOSED	4 VACATION CLOSED	5 VACATION CLOSED	6 VACATION CLOSED
9 Language Buff & Biscuit W/ Mixed Veggies Mashed Potatoes Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad Blueberries and Strawberries	10 Roasted Chicken Baked Potato Carrots Cottage Cheese and Pineapple Roll	11 Pork Barbeque Sandwich Macaroni Salad Tangy Red Slaw Waldorf Salad	12 Business Swiss Steak Whole Wheat Noodle Zucchini and Summer Squash Melon Salad Cake/ Roll	13 Baked Salmon Rice Pilaf Garden Salad Cherry Crisp Roll
16 Language Chicken Stir Fry W/ Fresh Veggies Brown Rice Tomato Salad Fortune Cookie Banana Wafer Pudding	17 Grilled BBQ Pork Chops Mashed Sweet Potatoes Brussels Sprouts Cucumber Salad Applesauce	18 Turkey Pita Pocket Assorted Veggie Tray Baked Beans Peach Crisp	19 Buffalo Tacos W/ Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Beans, and Cheese. Pineapple Upside Down Cake Fruit Cocktail	20 Vegetable Soup Egg Salad Assorted Breads Veggie Tray Fresh Fruit
23 Language Beef Chili Broccoli Slaw Fresh Fruit Cornbread	24 Santa Fe Salad W/ Taco Chips Banana Bread Jell-O Fruit	25 Sea Bass Spanish Rice Green Beans Garden Salad Peaches/ Roll	26 Social Chicken Pot Pie W/ Mixed Veggies Cottage Cheese Sliced Tomatoes Fruit Salad Roll	27 Veggie Burgers Baked Fries Relish Tray Jell-O W/ Fruit
30 Language Low Sodium Ham Turkey or Tuna Subs Assorted Veggie Toppings Baked Lays Chips Blueberry Crisp	31 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Corn on the Cob Tomato Salad Pears/ Plums/ Roll			Note: Milk, tea, coffee, water, Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, and onion served with sandwiches/ burgers.

Pokégnek Yajdanawa

Pokégnek Yajdanawa is the monthly voice of Pokégnek Bodéwadmik, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. Citizens are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry and announcements for publication in *Pokegnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions are subject to the guidelines printed on the final page of this issue.

The deadline for citizen submissions for the newsletter is always the 14th of the month. Please send items for publication to:

Pokégnek Yajdanawa
Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn. gov

Tribal Historic Preservation Office Joins Government Staff

Thanks to a grant from the National Parks Service, the Pokagon Band now has a tribal historic preservation officer. Michael Zimmerman Jr. began his duties on June 14. As the tribal historic preservation officer, or THPO, Zimmerman will be functioning like a state historic preservation officer: advising and working with federal agencies on the management of tribal historic properties, and preserving and rejuvenating the unique cultural traditions and practices of the Pokagon Band's tribal community.

The THPO position is guided by the Traditions and Repatriation Committee, and Zimmerman is charged with implementing its tribal historic preservation plan. The comprehensive plan includes identifying culturally and historically relevant sites and cataloging and documenting artifacts from the sites. Some of those sites include Pokagon's villages, which are in present day Niles and Dowagiac, Wesaw's villages in Niles and Marcellus, and the villages in Northern Indiana. He'll be working closely with other tribal departments to provide historic educational materials and heighten awareness of historic preservation within the tribal and non-tribal communities.

Zimmerman says he feels strongly about the repatriation process, and plans to work to implement the federal mandate called the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, or NAGPRA, to restore native people's remains and funerary artifacts to their rightful place. He will also be building a tribal archive to include family histories, oral histories, and documents that record lifeways, like basket making techniques. Another project: helping citizens to create or fill in their family trees.

Zimmerman graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelors degree in anthropology and a minor in history. He is a Nishnabe speaker, a skill he refined by taking community classes held one night a week for a year at the University of Michigan and traveling throughout the Nishnabe communities in the Great Lakes region, listening to and learning from native people speaking the indigenous language. His travels took him to the Walpole Island community in Canada, to Fond du Lac and Mille Lacs in Minnesota, and Forest County and Lac Courte Oreilles in Wisconsin.



Above, Zimmerman talks about Pokagon Band history at a recent outing to the Gage Street property.

"I hope that people will start actually speaking the language more often," he says.

Zimmerman's office is located in the Department of Natural Resources and he welcomes questions or information from tribal citizens. You can reach him at 269-782-9602 or Michael.Zimmerman@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Judy Augusta Retires from Pokagon Band Enrollment Office

After fifteen years of service to Pokagon Band citizens, Judy Augusta retired as the tribal enrollment coordinator July 14. One of the longest serving tribal government employees, Augusta says she'll always remember the exciting and challenging work of compiling the Band's base role after reaffirmation in 1994.

"I couldn't wait to get to work," she recalls. "We had an enrollment staff of nine, and I remember the day we had to print out the base role. Tribal Council was waiting for it, and we had to turn it in to BIA by May 2, 1996."

Augusta is looking forward to the freedom of retirement and having her own schedule.

"Perhaps I'll talk my son into taking me fishing," she says.

As for advice to her colleagues left behind, she recommends they "enjoy what you do. I always did; I liked the challenge."

Beth Edelberg is getting lots of advice from Augusta, as she'll become the new enrollment coordinator upon Augusta's retirement.

"I'm excited for the new challenge. There's a lot to learn," Edelberg says. "But I'm a seeker, so I'll find out what I need to know."



Beth Edelberg, the tribe's new enrollment coordinator, left, looks on as Tribal Chair Matthew Wesaw presents Judy Augusta with her retirement gift from the Band, a gold watch, at a staff gathering celebrating Augusta's fifteen years of service to tribal citizens.

Newsletter Changes In Store

You may notice some changes in *Pokégnek Yajdanawa* over the next few months. The Pokagon Band now has a director of communications, and therefore more resources to spend writing articles, taking photos and keeping readers updated on newsworthy tribal events and stories.

Paige Risser began as director of communications May 10. With nearly twenty years experience in public relations and communication, she has worked for such organizations as the American Red Cross, the Peace Corps, the Boys and Girls Club and the University of Notre Dame.

Plans are underway to revise the design and augment the content of the newsletter, and we'd like to hear your feedback, suggestions, and story ideas for the future editions of *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Please send your comments and ideas to Paige Risser, director of communications, at newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov .

New Michigan Law Spotlights the Dangers of Distracted Driving

While the use of mobile phones has grown enormously in the past two decades, it's still unclear to what extent cell phone calls and texting contribute to automobile accidents. What is clear is that talking on the phone and texting behind the wheel both lead to distraction, and driver inattention is the leading cause of car accidents.

According to 2008 statistics, more than 800,000 Americans were texting, making calls, or using a handheld cell phone while driving during the daytime. With distracted driving killing nearly 6,000 Americans that year, it's easy to see that cell phone use, especially texting, is risky for all motorists, particularly teen drivers. While all distractions can endanger drivers' safety, texting is the most alarming because it involves all three types of distractions: visual—taking your eyes off the road, manual—taking your hands off the wheel, and cognitive—taking your mind off what your driving.

Thumbs on the Wheel Campaign Spotlights Driver Texting Ban

Beginning, July 1, drivers who text behind the wheel risk not only an accident, but a $100 citation under provisions of a new Michigan state law designed to keep drivers' eyes on the road and their hands on the wheel.

To encourage awareness and compliance, the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning is launching a "Thumbs on the Wheel" campaign that will feature billboards, public service announcements and posters aimed at reducing driver distractions.

"The state's ban on texting while driving recognizes the potential danger when drivers are not fully focused on the road," said Col. Eddie L. Washington, Jr., director of the Michigan State Police. "As with all traffic laws, law enforcement officers will take appropriate action when witnessing violations."

The primary enforcement law prohibits drivers from reading, manually typing or sending a text message while driving. Drivers face a $100 fine for a first offense and a $200 fine for subsequent violations. Michigan now becomes the 24th state to ban drivers from texting.

Teen Drivers Particularly at Risk

Despite the risks, the majority of teen drivers ignore cell phone driving restrictions. Talking on a cell phone while driving can make a young driver's reaction time as slow as that of a 70 year-old. Fifty-six percent of teenagers admit to talking on their cell phones behind the wheel, while 13 percent admit to texting while driving. But because this information was given voluntarily by teens, actual cell phone use numbers may be much higher.



Jaime Sumners

Community Resource Officer

Pokagon Band

Tribal Police Department.

58155 M-51 South

Dowagiac, MI 49047

269.782.2232 Office

Forty-eight percent of young Americans from ages 12-17 say they've been in a car while the driver was texting. In 2007 driver distractions such as using a cell phone or text messaging contributed to nearly one thousand crashes involving 16 and 17 year-old drivers. Over 60 percent of American teens admit to risky driving, and nearly half of those that admit to risky driving also admit to text messaging behind the wheel. Each year, 21 percent of fatal car crashes involving teenagers between the ages of 16 and 19 were the result of cell phone usage. This result has been expected to grow as much as 4 percent every year. Teens say that texting is their number one driver distraction.

But distracted driving isn't just a teen problem, studies show that talking on a cell phone causes nearly 25 percent of car accidents and that one-fifth of experienced adult drivers in the United States send text messages while driving. Four out of every five accidents, or 80 percent, are attributed to distracted drivers. In contrast, drunk drivers account for roughly one out of three, or 33 percent, of all accidents nationally. Texting while driving is about six times more likely to result in an accident than driving while intoxicated, and people who text while driving are 23 percent more likely to be in a car accident. Studies have found that texting while driving causes a 400 percent increase in time spent with eyes off the road.

If you have any questions about this subject or would like more information, please feel free to contact the Pokagon Tribal Police Department at 269.782.2232.

Police Explorers Program In the Works

The Pokagon Police Department is looking at launching a Pokagon Band Police Explorers Program. Pending Tribal Council approval and depending on the interest level, teens ages 14 to 20 could participate in a program that allows them to become familiar with their police department, and explore whether they want to pursue a career in law enforcement. Teens might learn the ins and outs of accident and domestic violence investigation, building/vehicle searches, firearms safety, and parade and drill skills.

Participants would have monthly meetings at the police department and would receive a uniform, duty gear (a duty belt, handcuffs and case, flashlight and holder) and they will spend their time with police explorer advisors who will be their instructors. There is also a chance for the group to participate in state and national competitions.

"I can personally say that the Police Explorer Program is a great thing, as I was one 'back in the day,'" says Police Chief Rachel Sadowski-Spiegel. "The program showed me so many things that pushed me ahead in my college classes."

A minimum of five youths and five adults are required to start the program. Please call the Police Department if you are interested.

Indianapolis the Site for Native American Heritage Days

The 2nd Annual Native American Heritage Days will be held Saturday and Sunday, August 28 and 29 in Indianapolis at Garfield Park. The event honors Pokagon citizen Joyce M. Green, whose dream was to one day have a pow-wow in downtown Indianapolis to educate the public about Native American cultures.

The free event with be a festival celebrating modern and thriving native cultures in Indiana. There will be Native American dancing, drumming and food, plus arts and crafts vendors and stickball games.

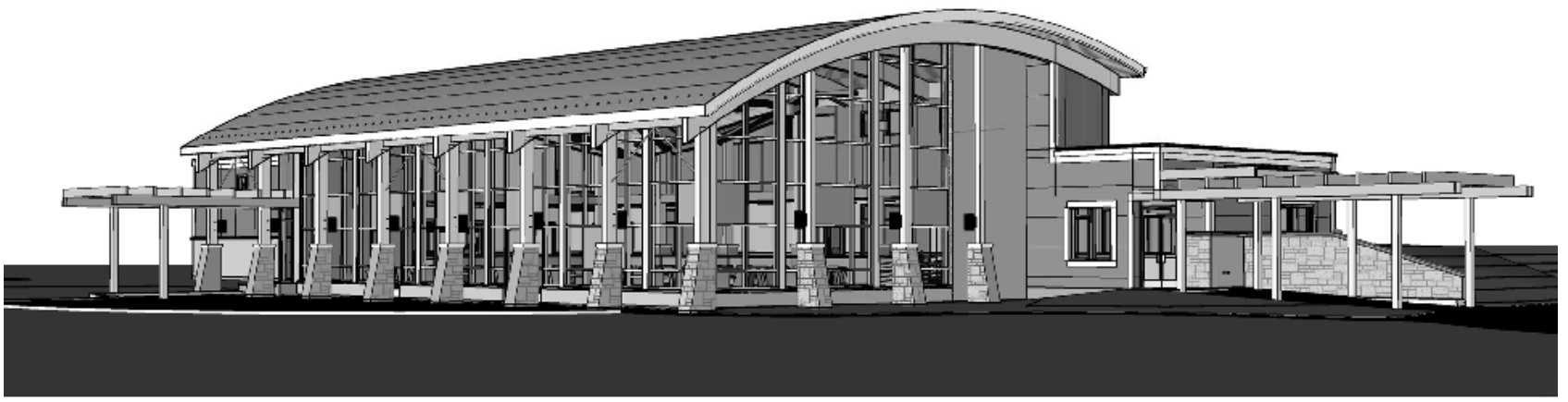
Events run Saturday from noon to 7 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. For more information, call Rebecca Martin, president of the Indiana Native American Business and Cultural Association at (877) 273-8199 or Rusty Green, vice-president, at (317) 298-0785.

New Buildings, Growth and Development for Band

Before long, passersby will start to see construction activity near the administration building and near Pokégnek Édawat in Dowagiac. Plans are moving forward for a new commodities warehouse and for the community center at Pokagon Village.

The new commodities warehouse will feature a 20' x 20'demonstration kitchen, significantly expanded storage space, and brings the building into compliance with USDA commodities standards. The goal is to eventually collaborate with MSU and Purdue University's extension services and use the demonstration kitchen to provide nutrition education programs, helping citizens better prepare the food they receive from commodities. Construction teams are expected to break ground in late July.

The community center, below, will be a state-of-the-art, silver LEED certified building. The LEED certification indicates that the structure will integrate green building technology in its construction: geothermal heating and cooling, 2,000 feet of solar panels for heating and electricity, plants on the roof, and berms of soil and vegetation half way up the outer walls on the north and west sides of the building for natural insulation. Inside the building citizens can take advantage of a large meeting room, a warming kitchen, office space, and smaller conference spaces for community activities. The central gathering space features high ceilings and an exposed timber-frame structure. A patio outside will contain a sunken fire pit. Bids for construction on the community center project should be awarded by late August.



Housing Staff Sharpens Skills in Training Sessions

The Department of Housing recently hosted a two day "train the trainer" training on personal financial management to the tribe's financial education team. The instruction was provided by Donna Fairbanks, an Ojibway from the White Earth Nation and a consultant for the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC). Participants learned how to more effectively coach tribal citizens in the areas of managing family finances and establishing good credit, so that they may purchase a home some day or realize other long term goals. Ms. Fairbanks emphasized that personal finances impact every aspect of a person's life—including education, health, transportation, recreation and general lifestyle. Participating in the training were front line staffers from Health Services, Social Services and Tribal Police, in addition to Housing. Because Pokagon Band is a member of NAIHC, the training was provided at no cost. A third day of training, which was directed to Housing staff only, centered on establishing and implementing effective housing policies.

"She shared a wealth of ideas with our staff," said Jim Coleman, Pokagon Band's housing director. "It helped bring the team together, and I see it fitting into our overall plan to improve the housing department and reorganize for future growth."

Soon after the first training, Housing staff met with Melissa Petersen, an independent auditor who shared new tools that will improve both efficiency and oversight of department programs.



Housing Director Jim Coleman, right, attempts to toss a ball into a box while listening to direction from staff members in an activity designed to show the importance of teamwork at a recent training on personal financial management.

Pokagon Band Students Gear Up for Summer Learning

Studies show that "summer lag"—the learning relapse that occurs when students are out of school during summer break—can cause teachers to use valuable class time to reteach lessons from the previous school year to catch students up to where they should be in the fall. In response to this, and to give native students the opportunity to participate in Potawatomi language and cultural activities, the Pokagon Band's Department of Education is sponsoring its fifth annual summer school program.

Forty-seven Native students entering kindergarten through sixth grade are participating in activities designed to keep them moving ahead in their school work. Each morning students are working with certified teachers on academic subjects like reading, writing and math.

"Our program isn't designed to be remedial," said education coordinator Penny Brant. "We're trying to keep students engaged over the summer break, and expose them to cultural teachings, too."

This year's theme is Bmendezok, which in the Potawatomi language means to take care of yourselves. In the afternoons, students will learn about nutrition from a dietician, and talk about health, physical fitness and taking care of the Earth.

The program began Tuesday, July 6 and runs Monday through Thursday until July 29. Held at the Head Start building on the Rodgers Lake campus, the program provides limited transportation, and a light breakfast, snack and lunch each day to students.





Above, Robert Ledesma plays a card game with summer youth intern Corinne Kasper. At left, older students ran off some energy during an after-lunch lacrosse match.

Summer Camps Give Kids Opportunity for Fun and Cultural Activities





Pokagon kids from second grade through high school enjoyed a summertime favorite, summer camp, from June 18-27 at Rodgers Lake campus. Campers hiked, canoed and participated in a wide range of traditional Potawatomi activities during their two, three or four-day experience at camp.

Left, Tristan Kiggins concentrates on his black ash basket during middle school camp. Below left, the second through fourth grade campers show their enthusiasm. Above right, Ernest Lucia crafts his lacrosse stick during senior high camp. Lower right, Liz Glowack, camp counselor, and her daughter Echo, a camper with the second through fourth graders, take a canoe out for a spin on Rodgers Lake.





August Students of the Month

Submitted by Kateri O'Toole and Susan Doyle, Education Associates

Elijah Ledesma

Elijah Ledesma is a second grader at Red Arrow Elementary in Hartford, Michigan. His parents are Robert and Misty Ledesma, his grandparents are Terry & Adeline Dixon. His siblings are Robert Jr. and Raven. The tribal or cultural activity that he is involved in is the Red Arrow enrichment lab. He also attends the pow-wows and wants to learn how to be a drummer. His favorite foods are steak, chicken, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. His favorite sports to play are football, baseball, basketball, and soccer. Elijah also likes to draw and color. When he grows up he would like to be a police officer or a firefighter. He would also like to play basketball for the San Antonio Spurs. Elijah is proud to be Native American because he has a unique background.

Masie Daggett

Masie Daggett is a first grader at North Side Elementary in Winchester, Indiana. Her parents are John and Brenda Daggett. Her grandparents are Benny and Janet Brake, and also Bob and Mary Wilker. Masie's brother is Aiden. Her favorite things are pizza, hamburger helper, computers, Girl Scouts, softball, basketball, soccer, theater, and dance. When she grows up Masie would like to be a doctor, singer, movie star, and the first woman president. Masie is proud to be a Native American because they were the first people in America.

Santiago Ramos

Santiago Ramos is a freshman at Dowagiac Union High School in Dowagiac, Michigan. His parents are Pablo and Sarah "Sally" Ramos. His grandparents are Loraine and Jim Gideon Sr. He currently participates with the Pokagon after school enrichment lab along with the Notre Dame enrichment lab. Santiago likes to play guitar and listen to music. His favorite foods are fish and venison. His favorite activity is judging fry bread stands at pow-wows. When he gets older he would like to be an auto mechanic or maybe a doctor, possibly a zoologist. His future is still undecided. He thinks the thing that makes him proud to be Native American is the heritage that has been passed down to him from his Elders, and also going on trips to places like Kansas.

Kassidy Wesaw

Kassidy Wesaw is a fourth grader at Alamo Elementary in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Her parents are Jason and Necole Wesaw. Her grandfather is the late Michael Wesaw. Kassidy enjoys reading about Native American history and attending pow-wows. Her favorite food is Sushi and her favorite toy is her stuffed animal, a fox. She enjoys Yide games, playing the guitar, playing outside and adventuring into the woods and the pond. She likes drawing and reading. Kassidy is an A student, she plays Little League softball, and is a member of Alamo Elementary Destination Imagination Team. Kassidy plans on attending college and becoming an artist some day. She is proud to be Native American because she is different and proud of Native history.

Jackie Winchester-Jones

Jackie Winchester- Jones just completed third grade at Kincheloe Elementary School in Dowagiac. She is the daughter of Michele Winchester and Thomas Jones. Her siblings are Madelynn (16), Brandon (12), Marcus (11), and Joshua (4). She is the granddaughter of Joyce Winchester of Dowagiac, Mike & Sally Winchester of SchoolCraft, Nancy Payton & Gene Payton of Elkhart, IN, and the late Thomas Jones Sr. of Elkhart, IN.

Jackie's favorite food is strawberries, her favorite toy is a wagon, and her favorite activities are going outside, playing memory, and dancing. Jackie loves being Native American because she loves learning about her heritage and it makes her feel happy that she is Pokagon Potawatomi. She is involved with tribal cultural activities by attending the Labor Day Pow Wow.

Upcoming Events from the Department of Education

July

28-30 Traditional healing appointments with Jake Pine

28-30 Women's drum and medicine teachings and talking circle with Barb Peltier

31 Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine

August

1 Back to School Launch

2 Language class at Elders hall with John Winchester

5 Community College Student Night, 6-7:30 p.m.

5-7 Potawatomi Gathering, Oklahoma

9 Language class at Elders hall with John Winchester

12 Language class in Dowagiac with Frank Barker

16-20 Potawatomi Summer Language Immersion Camp, Hannahville

24 Language class at Elders hall with John Winchester

26 Language class in South Bend office with Frank Barker

25-27 Traditional healing appointments with Jake Pine

25-27 Women's drum and medicine teachings and talking circle with Barb Peltier

28 Sweat Lodge with Jake Pine

September

5-6 Backpack distribution

5 Pokagon Alumni Breakfast

5 Gifting of graduate blankets at Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow

7 First day of school for Head Start

11-12 Language Immersion Weekend, Tribal Lodge

For more detailed information, please call 269-782-0887.

Vocabulary for Niben (Summer)

Squirrel	Jedmo
Mosquitoes	Skemé
Grass	Mishkon
Hummingbirds	nanokashi
Fire fly(s)	wasesi(yek)
Fishing	Demojgé
Strawberry	Démen
Nice day or Good day	Mno gishget

Labor Day Weekend Full of Pow-Wow Activities

The Traditional Woman of the Pokagon Band Community present the

3rd Annual Sunrise Ceremony & Women's Water Walk

Friday, September 3
7:00 a.m.
64264 Gage Street
Dowagiac, Michigan



Ceremony and walk begin at our Gage Street Property and end at Rodgers Lake. This walk is held every year before the Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow-Wow to honor the waters of the Pokagon Band homelands. Everyone who wishes to support the women and their effort is welcome to join in on the walk. Women are encouraged to wear long skirts. Everyone should wear good walking shoes! For more information, contact Alycia at 231-578-4373.

Volunteers Needed

The 25th Annual Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Pow Wow is just around the corner. The Pow Wow Committee is seeking reliable volunteers to assist with making the event a safe, well organized, and enjoyable event for all visitors.

We are looking for vendor assistants, parking attendants, golf cart drivers, security, and t-shirt sales persons. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Julie Farver at 269-501-1867. Please be prepared to attend a mandatory volunteer training session the evening of Friday, September 3 at Rodgers Lake. Dinner will be provided.

This is great opportunity to support the Pokagon community and to get involved, so call Julie today.

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa
"Celebrating the Huckleberry Harvest"

25th Anniversary Contest Pow-Wow

September 4-5, 2010
Rodgers Lake
58620 Sink Rd
Dowagiac, MI

Grand Entry
Saturday: 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM
Sunday: Noon

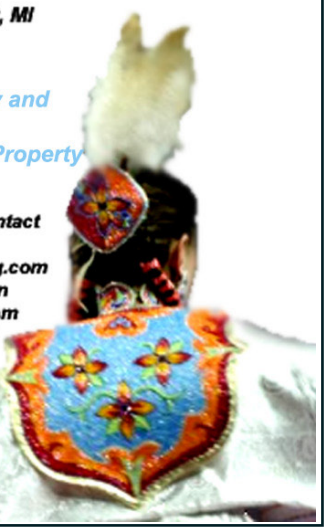
HEAD STAFF
Host Drum: Midnight Express, MN
Co-Host: RibbonTown, IN
Invited Drums:
Southern Straight, MI
War Club, WI
Great Lakes Alliance, MI
Painted Rock, MI
~~***TBA***~~

Master of Ceremonies: TBA
Head Veteran: George Martin, MI
Head Male Dancer: Marcus Winchester, MI
Head Female Dancer: Amanda Pigeon, MI
Honored Elders: Clarence White & Majel DeMarsh
Tom Topash & Angie Francisco
Clarence Syrette & Val Baker
Head Dance Judges: Dave & Punkin Shananaquet, MI
~~***Arena Director: Steve Oldman Sr, MI***~~

Featuring
** Dance Contest **
** Hand Drum Special **
** Great Lakes Old Style Traditional Special **

Participants also invited to a Sunrise Ceremony and Women's Water Walk
Friday, September 3, 2010 starting at Gage Street Property

American Indian vendors only. Vendor information contact
~~***Teresa Magnuson***~~
Phone * (517) 712-5581 Email * teresa@redpaintprinting.com
Other pow-wow information contact Alycia Atkinson
Phone * (231) 578-4373 Email * anishmama2@aol.com
Camping available for pow-wow participants first come first serve starting Thursday noon.
All specials need to be pre-approved .
No firearms, drugs, alcohol, tribal politics, or pets in the pow-wow area.



Elders Council
Business Meeting Minutes
July 1, 2010
Meeting called to order at 11:12 a.m.
Invocation: Butch Starrett
Roll Call: Margaret Rapp, Ken Rader, and Audrey Huston, present. Clarence White, absent and excused. Also in attendance: Yvonne "Petey" Boehm, Lynn Davidson.
Agenda: Susan Gunderson introduced the new employees from the health clinic. We have 3 community health representatives, 2 RNs, a pharmacist, a pharmacy technician and a clinic manager. Matt Wesaw introduced three new employees, the housing director, communications director and the tribal historic preservation officer. Petey Boehm reported that active living classes will resume in the fall. She will also give us the room and travel information for the trip to the MIEA conference in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan July 7-9, 2010.
Additions to the agenda: Ed Williams, assistant general counsel, explained the referendums and amendments that are on the ballot for this year's election. Matt Wesaw suggested writing a letter to Arthur Culpeper, health services director, asking for more chore providers.
Minutes: Ken moved to accept the June 3, 2010 minutes. Margaret seconded, 3 yes, 1 absent, approved.
No treasurer's report was given.
New business: Nominations were taken for MIEA officers. Hal Wiggins and Gerald Wesaw were nominated for chairman, both declined. Bonnie Parrish was nominated for secretary and she accepted.
No old business.
Communications: Matt Wesaw will pursue the issue of dealing with B&W Charter with general counsel.
Announcements: language classes are held every Monday at Elders Hall, 11 a.m.-12 noon. Elders picnic will be July 15 at the Tribal Lodge. Bingo will be held at Elders Hall July 14, 21, 28 at 1 p.m. The Potawatomi Gathering will be in Shawnee, Oklahoma August 5-7.
July birthdays: Jim Lepal, Ken Kirvan, Patsy Carney, Ken Rader.
July anniversaries: Paul and Vivian Jackson
Adjournment: 1 p.m.



Happy 5th Birthday
Jordan Wesaw 8/23
Love,
Mom, Dad, Brendan and Mason



Happy Birthday to our kids
Brieann Cummins-August 13
Matthew Cummins Jr.-August 3
Love, Mom & Dad



Happy 5th Anniversary Karen and Corey. To a terrific couple.
I'm proud of you both!
Love ya, Mom

happy birthday heather (heffington) mays
on august 2nd.
love you, amanda

happy birthday
isiah heffington
on august 21st
love, amanda

Happy 21st Birthday to my lil'
brother Mikey on august 29th
love ya bunches, amanda

Happy Birthday
Bobby Parker-8/5
Tammy Gillette-8/30
Love, Kathy & Mike

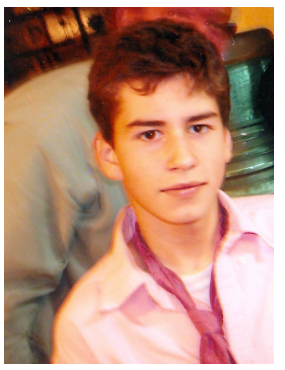
Happy Birthday
Timmy Jo Lee-8/16
Tommy Lee Martin Jr.-8/24
Ashley Martin-8/26
Love, Aunt Kat & Uncle MIke

Happy 22nd Anniversary Mike Goodson
Can you believe it's been 22 years?
Let's go for 22 more.
Love you with all my heart.
Always, Kathy



Happy Birthday to Derrick Grubb
From, your brothers





Happy Belated Birthday
Love, Mom and Dad, brothers and sisters

Happy Birthday
Princess Julie Williams
Love, Mom & Dad

Happy Birthday
Joseph Tyler Williams
Love, Mom & Dad



Andy,
Congratulations on your cultural associate position. Even back then at 13 years old, you knew who you were:
an Indian princess.

Pokagon Health Services Briefs

August Recognized as National Breastfeeding Month

Native American women have always nursed their children as part of their heritage and to honor the natural and traditional gift a mother is given from the Creator for the children of earth.

Breastfeeding's benefits are multiple: it heightens a baby's immunities, it protects our babies from developing diabetes, it helps both mother and baby maintain a healthy weight and it promotes brain development and the mother-baby bond. These are important life-long benefits. It's also free!

Pokagon Band Health Services provides ongoing professional breastfeeding support and is a great resource for Pokagon women making a decision about how to feed their babies. If you are looking for breast pumps, information or supplies please call the Health Services Office at 888-440-1234 x343 to make an appointment.

Nutrition Boot Camp

Is there any interest in a class on fun foods and learning about healthy eating? Consider signing up for a class exploring the world of food designed for 8 to 12 year old children and their parents. Classes are limited to ten children and ten parents, and will be held on Tuesday and Thursday, August 10, 12, 17 and 19, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Location to be determined. Call dietician Susan Gundersen at 888-440-1234 to sign up.

Red Road Wellbriety Adds Tuesday Meeting

A Tuesday evening meeting has been added to our current Friday evening Red Road AA/NA Wellbriety meeting at Health Services building II. Come by Tuesdays 6- 7:30 p.m. and Fridays 7-8:30 p.m. Refreshments are offered, and facilitators will sign off on paperwork and provide informational materials.

Info Provided to Higher Education Students

The Department of Education continues to process scholarship requests for tribal citizens attending college. Members pursuing associates, bachelors, masters, or doctorate degrees are encouraged to apply. We are happy to see so many being the first in their family to attend college. As a reminder: the technology stipend is a one-time award, but the book stipend requires students to apply every semester.

If you are considering applying for education assistance, be sure to attend Community College Student Night August 5 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the administration building's break room. Not only will there be pizza and drinks to enjoy, but higher education staff will be on hand to answer questions about scholarships and stipends. You'll be able to pick up applications for the programs, and speak with former community college students about transferring to a four-year institution to complete a bachelors degree.

For more information please contact Joseph Avance or visit our web site at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov

Native Foster Parents Needed

Our traditions tell us the most sacred beings among our Anishnabe people are our children and our Elders. Our children have just come from being with the Creator in the Spirit World, and our Elders are facing the West on their way to the Spirit World to be with the Creator again.

As a Tribal nation, we recognize our responsibility "to provide for the welfare, care and protection of the children," through our Child Protection Code. "The care and custody of the Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, as such the welfare of its children is of paramount importance to the Band" says our Family Welfare Commission Ordinance.

There are no words in the Potawatomi language for the term "foster parents." Native people have had to adapt, and the use of this term is now a necessity. Sometimes within our family framework there is turmoil and our children suffer. Some of our children need care and protection. Do you have in your spirit and your home a place for a child who needs a temporary family? Have you ever thought about being a foster parent?

We realize you will have many questions about foster parenting and we urge you to contact our Social Services Department at (269) 782-8998 and ask for Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, our Indian Child Welfare Worker.

Changes Made to the Band's Burial Fund Code

The Tribal Council amended the Pokagon Band Burial Fund Code. For a copy of an amended version of the Burial Fund Code, please visit the Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov. Provided below is summary of the amendments.

Eligibility for the Burial Benefit– Changes to Eligibility Requirements Regarding Children Who Are Not Enrolled

Children of Pokagon Band members who are eligible for enrollment with the Band, but not yet enrolled, are covered by the Burial Benefit only if they are 5 years of age or younger. The Burial Benefit now covers Stillborn Children.

Payment of Burial Benefit – Changes to Payment Structure Regarding Distribution of Excess Funds

Previously, after the payment of monument, funeral, and funeral luncheon costs, any Burial Benefit funds remaining were distributed. The Burial Benefit of $10,000 will now be used solely to pay for the cost of a monument, funeral, and luncheon. After the payment of those three expenses, no excess funds will be distributed.

Reimbursement for Prepayment of Funeral and/or Monument Expenses – New Provision Permits Reimbursement for Prepaid Expenses Now in Limited Circumstances

If a Pokagon Band member prepaid the cost of his or her funeral and/or monument expenses via an irrevocable agreement with a funeral home or monument company on or before May 8, 2010, then the Pokagon Band will reimburse the Pokagon Band member the cost of such prepaid expenses, in accordance with the dollar limitations provided for funeral and monument expenses in the Code. Following reimbursement by the Band of the prepayment expenses, the member will not be covered by the Burial Benefit upon his or her death, to the extent the Band previously reimbursed the member for such expenses.

This is only a summary. Please review the Burial Fund Code for more specific details. If you have additional questions concerning these amendments or the Burial Fund in general, please contact the Band's Department of Social Services at (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777.

Per Capita News

The following list of citizens have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office for Per Capita payment distribution and 2009 Christmas checks. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band enrollment office to verify the address.

1499 Peter Cusi Gibbons-Ballew
3282 Daniel Sanderson
0083 John Dylan Watson
0406 Michael Lynn Hewitt
0433 Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
0434 Thomas Charles Abercrombie
0857 Peter John Ramirez
1283 Jodi Lynn Burfield
1445 Michael David Bush
1446 Bobby Marcus Haynes
1506 Michaela Lynne Canard
2795 Edward F Cushway
2805 Isabel Marie Campos

The following list of citizens have not contacted the enrollment office to verify their valid addresses to receive their 2009 Christmas checks.

BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
RUBY TUESDAY BALEY
MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
NICHOLAS RAY BENNETT
FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
IAN THOMAS CURREY
PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

Deadline to receive changes/updates/additions in Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date for direct deposits
Thursday, July 15, 2010	Thurs, July 29, 2010	Fri, July 30, 2010
Monday, August 16, 2010	Mon, Aug 30, 2010	Tues, Aug 31, 2010
Wednesday, September 15, 2010	Wed, Sept 29, 2010	Thurs, Sept 30, 2010
Friday, October 15, 2010	Thurs, Oct 28, 2010	Fri, Oct 29, 2010
Monday, November 15, 2010	Tues, Nov 23, 2010	Wed, Nov 24, 2010



South Bend Area Office Schedule

Mondays: Housing staff will be available to provide information on housing programs.

1st Tuesday of the month: Health Services social worker
2nd Tuesday of the month: Contract Health Services processor
3rd Tuesday of the month: Community Health Nurse
4th Tuesday of the month: Community Health Representative
Each Tuesday: Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, foot care, diabetes management and prevention by appointment.

Wednesdays: Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and Work-force Investment Act applications.

Fridays: Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the daycare program will be available.

Ogitchedaw

The Veterans Committee meets on the first Thursday of every month at 1:30 p.m. at Elders Hall. For more information, contact Butch Starrett at 269-591-2601

Does Investing For Retirement Intimidate You?

While most of us know we should prepare for retirement, the thought of making decisions about stocks, bonds, and mutual funds can be intimidating. So at the Financial Planning Workshop we will work on demystifying the various options. Fred Lamble and Kathy Reinhardt of Key Bank will review types of investments, risk profile, ideal invest mix along with hands on examples. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer period.

What: Financial Planning Workshop
Where: Key Bank building, South Bend, Indiana
When: September 16
Who: All Pokagon Band tribal members and spouses/ partners (regardless of county of residence)
Why: To strengthen the personal financial skills of Pokagon Band families, thereby empowering them to better meet their families' needs
How long: 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Light snacks and refreshments will be served (childcare will not be provided)
What to do: Call or email right away. Seating is limited. Contact Rose Waldschmidt, Community Financial Empowerment Advisor at (269) 462-4254, (877) 983-0385 or email at Rose.Waldschmidt@PokagonBand-NSN.gov .

From the Tribal Chairman



If memory serves, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission made history during its last meeting. The Sault Saint Marie Band of Chippewa Indians hosted the commission meeting at their St. Ignace conference center. The most senior member couldn't remember the Civil Rights Commission holding a meeting across the bridge in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. To make our first venture across the bridge and hold a meeting in Indian Country is a positive statement, in my opinion.

The topic for the meeting was the state's broken public defense system. It has reached the level of becoming a civil rights issue. This is a growing problem that includes Michigan's Native American citizens who can't afford proper representation. I have included in my column this month a guest column I submitted to the state's newspapers on this topic. As you can see, there are serious consequences when public defenders aren't able to provide adequate defense for their clients.

We will continue to work with those who are attempting to raise the bar on the state's system to meet the constitution's requirements and protecting everyone's civil rights. My guest column follows:

Last month, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission unanimously approved a resolution stating "in order to protect the civil and constitutional rights of all, Michigan must maintain a public defense delivery system that meets national standards and provides the effective assistance of counsel … to those who cannot afford to hire an attorney."

As a retired Michigan state trooper, I am acutely aware that the safety of our state depends in large part on the integrity of the criminal justice system. Justice must be distributed based on a consideration of investigated evidence, not the ability to pay for an attorney.

First, some background. Almost two years ago, a report commissioned by the Michigan legislature and issued by a panel of national experts cited Michigan's public defense system as one of America's worst. Unlike other states, the report found Michigan provides no funding for defense services in criminal or juvenile delinquency proceedings. These services are funded and managed by the counties.

The state sets no standards for attorneys working in the system. We require no training for defense attorneys. We offer no oversight or performance monitoring. We fail to provide consistent access to investigators and experts. And we set no workload limits to ensure that clients receive an effective defense.

The effects on residents and our communities are many. A broken public defense system fails taxpayers. It fails people accused of a crime, and it fails to protect the safety of our communities. With our state budget again facing deficits, we cannot afford to throw away tax dollars on a defective and constitutionally deficient system that increases corrections costs beyond what they need to be.

In addition, inadequate assistance of defense counsel can lead to false convictions or excessive sentences. Innocent men and women sometimes go to prison when they shouldn't, or they are incarcerated for longer than appropriate — again, affecting lives, devastating families and wasting money. When an innocent person goes to jail for a crime he or she did not commit the real criminal remains in society.

None of these realities are good for our state or its residents, and all point to the immediate need to reform public defense in Michigan.

As the nation's only constitutionally created Civil Rights Commission, we are called upon to work to protect the civil rights of all people equally. For this simple reason, we add our voice to the growing chorus calling for a public defense system that upholds our constitution and serves all the people of our state.

I would like to make a brief comment on the last election. I appreciate those who voted. Our Band has 2,561 eligible voters and 1,210 registered voters out of a population of about 4,300. Yet only 352 voted in the last election. I would be very interested in hearing why more of our citizens don't participate in their government and what council and the election board could do to create a process that will encourage more participation. This is where you make your greatest impact.

In closing, I hope you all enjoyed the Fourth of July, and please continue to remember our veterans and those currently serving. The freedom we enjoy is a direct result of their willingness to sacrifice. As always, my phone is on and my door is open. If you are in the area please stop in and say hi.

Matt

Tribal Council Calendar of Events

August

2 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
3 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
9 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
10 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
14 Tribal Council Citizen Meeting, 10 a.m. Lodge
16 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
17 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
23 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
24 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
26 Tribal Council Special Session, 6 p.m., Lodge
30 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
31 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov or call 1-888-782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Trying to Save Vanishing Native Languages

By Stephan Salisbury, Philadelphia Inquirer

In May, representatives from 10 tribal communities across the United States, plus archivists and scholars, gathered for a two-day conference in Philadelphia to discuss how to make practical use of the American Philosophical Society's vast collection of historic Native American materials, including about 113,000 photographic images and more than 1,000 hours of recorded American Indian languages.

This was no arcane academic exercise. Many native languages are on the verge of extinction, with only a handful of fluent speakers surviving, and many others already have passed into history.

Larry Aitken, tribal historian for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe in northern Minnesota, performed a pipe ceremony at the beginning of the conference because the stakes were very high: Succeed in revitalization efforts or see languages die. All human and higher powers will be necessary to prevent that.

According to Robert J. Miller, a Shawnee and law professor at Lewis and Clark Law School in Portland, Ore., there were an estimated 300 distinct languages spoken in North America at the time Europeans first arrived in the late 15th century.

Archivists and librarians at the philosophical society are acutely aware of the precarious nature of native languages. The conference represented the culmination of a three-year effort to digitize the society's holdings - which have been accumulating for more than two centuries - and make them widely accessible over the Internet.

> "If we have to interpret our world with the language with which another people interpret the world, then it is no longer our world."

At the same time, the society has sought to work with tribal communities to find ways they can take advantage of the material, formerly available only to a small world of on-site scholars. Michael Zimmerman, a Pokagon Potawatomi linguist from southwestern Michigan, said he found several hours of tapes in the society's archives recorded a generation ago in his own community. The material will help Zimmerman overcome local resistance to learning Potawatomi from outside speakers.

Such resistance, which is not uncommon, has severely hampered efforts to resurrect language in a community that no longer has native speakers, he said.

"I speak, but I had to go outside of my community to learn, and there's some contention with that because of the fact that I didn't learn in my area. So some people say I speak different," Zimmerman said.

"But what's interesting is I go dig back into archives - actually, this archive here had something, around 16 tapes of audio of two elders in my community. And this is from back in 1992. . . . Last night I got copies of them and I'm playing them in my hotel room and I understand everything that they're saying."

Why is preserving the language so important?

"The fact is that the language not only validates but embodies the idea of being something," said Tom Belt, elder-in-residence in the Cherokee studies program at Western Carolina University. "The importance of the language is that without it we can't be who we are. All language is the way we interpret the world - any language is. Any language on the face of the Earth is simply the way in which that particular group of people in that geographic area interpret the world. And if we have to interpret our world with the language with which another people interpret the world, then it is no longer our world.

"We're not that people. We're something, but we're not what we say we are. So in order to be Cherokee, in order to be that, that's the importance of it. In order to be that, we have to say that, we have to speak that, we have to think that."

Wisconsin Law Bans Native American Mascots

by Brian Bull, Wisconsin Public Radio

School team nicknames like the Chieftains and Braves may soon be a thing of the past in Wisconsin, where a new law allows the state to ban race-based mascots and logos. If a complaint is upheld, school districts face fines of up to $1,000 a day.

It's been 42 years since the National Congress of American Indians challenged the use of Native American mascots. Today, an estimated 900 high schools and colleges still use Native American names and images for sports teams. And of course, there are the professional teams — the Chicago Blackhawks, Cleveland Indians, Atlanta Braves, Kansas City Chiefs and Washington Redskins, among others.

For decades, Native American civil rights groups have called on these teams to change their names. They've had little success. But Dave Czesniuk, of the Boston-based group Sport in Society, thinks the Wisconsin law may turn out to be a game-changer.

"I think what's going on in Wisconsin is exciting, and it's a true sign of real change," he says. "Social responsibility is on the rise, even in the ranks of professional sports and the corporate level."

Czesniuk says attitudes have changed since the 1970s, when an estimated 3,000 schools and colleges had Indian mascots. He says the key to making the case is teaching team officials and fans how they perpetuate stereotypes and hurt some Native Americans.

But then again, some Wisconsin lawmakers pushed that argument for nearly 30 years before their mascot bill became law. And many school and professional teams argue that their mascots honor Native Americans rather than degrade them.

Bob Kliebenstein of Tomah, Wis., says that was the case with the Tomah Indians. He's still upset that the school board changed the mascot to the Timberwolves a few years ago. He says there's no telling where the mascot wars will go next.

"Right now, the trendy thing seems to be to get rid of Native American mascots. And in three to five years, the trendy thing might be to get rid of animal mascots. And after that, who knows? We might all have to just be one mascot, just real generic."

But there's a twist. A provision in the law says schools with mascots specifically named after a federally recognized tribe could keep it, if they have that tribe's permission. The legislator who penned that in is a graduate of Auburndale High School — home of the Apaches.



The mascot for the Dowagiac High School Chieftains was recreated in 1990 in consultation with Pokagon Band citizens to more accurately represent the area's original people.

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Tribal Council Directory

CHAIRMAN	VICE CHAIRMAN
Matt Wesaw Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov 517-719-5579	Butch Starrett Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-2901

SECRETARY	TREASURER
Faye Wesaw Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-635-0948	Troland Clay Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-5205

Members At Large	
Steve Winchester Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-0119	Michaelina Magnuson Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-591-5616
Alice Overly Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-240-8041	John Warren John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-214-2610
Marchell Wesaw Marchell.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-240-1570	Marie Manley Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-214-2609

Elders Representative	Executive Secretary to Tribal Council
Lynn Davidson Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-240-8092	Kelly Curran Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov 269-782-8998

Pokagon Band Mailing Address
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Council Lodge Phone: 1-888-376-9988

Tribal Council
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-6323 /
Toll Free (888) 376-9988
FAX (269) 782-9625

Elders Program
53237 Townhall Rd.
(269) 782-0765 /
Toll Free (800) 859-2717
FAX (269) 782-1696

Administration
Information Technology
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-6882

Social Services
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-4295

Health Services /
Behavioral Health
57392 M 51 South
(269) 782-4141 /
Toll Free (888) 440-1234
FAX (269) 782 - 8797

Natural Resources
32142 Edwards St.
(269) 782-9602 Phone
(269) 783-0452 Fax

Education and Training
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-0887/
FAX (269) 782-0985

Finance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-1028

Enrollment
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-1763 /
FAX (269) 782-1964

Commodities
(269) 782-3372 /
Toll Free (888) 281-1111
FAX (269)782-7814

Head Start
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0026/
(866)-250-6573
FAX (269) 782-9795

South Bend Area Office
310 W. Mc Kinley Ave. Suite 300
Mishawaka, IN. 46545
(574)-255-2368 /
Toll Free (800) 737-9223
FAX (574) 255-2974

Housing
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0443 /
FAX (269) 783-0452

Tribal Court
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0505 /
FAX (269) 783-0519

Tribal Police
58155 M-51 South
(269) 782-2232 /
Toll Free (866-399-0161)
FAX (269) 782-7988

Election
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-9475 /
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Human Resources / Compliance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998

Tribal Citizens' Spouses May Apply for Temporary Staffing Pool

The Pokagon Band temporary pool will accept applications from tribal citizens and their spouses. Native American preference still applies, so the spouses will be considered if a Pokagon Band citizen is unavailable for the position. Pay for temporary positions is $8.50 per hour.

Tribal citizens interested in assisting with filling temporary vacancies on an "on-call" basis are encouraged to call Lori Harris at (269) 782-8998 or 800-517-0777. Employment applications are available at the Pokagon Band administration office at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac.

Applicants must pass the following background checks: criminal background, a motor vehicle report, work history, references, tribal membership (or spouse of enrolled tribal citizen) and DSH clearance (if applicable).

You must submit to and pass a drug and alcohol test. Temporary personnel will be subject to applicable rules of the Pokagon Band Personnel Policy Handbook.

This is an excellent opportunity to occasionally supplement income and gain experience while aiding the government in continuing smooth delivery of services. Call for an appointment today.

Guidelines for Pokégnek Yajdanawa Submissions

Enrolled citizens of the Pokagon Band are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry, and announcements for publication in Pokégnek Yajdanawa. Submissions shall be the views and product of the submitting member. Submissions written by or to a third-party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to Pokégnek Yajdanawa are not original.

Anonymous or "name withheld" submissions will not be published. Members shall include their tribal enrollment number, full name, and mailing address with all newsletter submissions. Tribal enrollment number and mailing address will be used for verification purposes and will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Newsletter staff will contact members should any reason arise that may delay or prevent posting of newsletter submissions. To ensure timely communication with members regarding their newsletter submissions, members may choose to provide additional contact information such as a phone number or e-mail address. Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and other provided contact information will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Newsletter staff reserves the right to refuse submissions based on the following criteria;

1. False, misleading, or defamatory;
2. Discriminatory, sexist, racist, demeaning, insulting, or otherwise offensive to another;
3. Threatening, harassing, intimidating, or otherwise may tend to produce fear;
4. Profane, obscene, pornographic, indecent, or patently offensive to the average user;
5. Disruptive to the office, undermining of the Band's or a supervisor's authority, or impairing of working relationships; and
6. Absolutely no political campaigning is allowed.

Tobacco Sales

Cigarettes are sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We sell Basic, Marlboro, and Newport brands and a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston. Sales are handled by the receptionist Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. You must be 18 years old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. Maximum of five cartons per month per tribal citizen**.** Credit cards accepted.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Administrative Office
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047



Fundraiser Showcases Talents and Raises Pow Wow Funds

The Kee Boon Mein Kaa Labor Day Pow Wow Committee held their third annual fundraiser Saturday, July 10 at the Wood Fire in downtown Dowagiac. The event raised close to $1,000 and featured a lunch buffet, silent auction, and entertainment. John T. Warren displayed his hand drum skills, mens traditional dancer Marcus Winchester, left, and ladies jingle dress dancer Rhonda Purcell, right, performed, and Kevin Daugherty gave a history presentation. The silent auction included both handcrafted artwork by such Pokagon artists as Hal Wiggins and Gerald Wesaw, as well as a number of donations from local businesses. Almost sixty Pokagon citizens came out to socialize and support the pow-wow committee in the fundraising effort, many after casting their votes in the annual Pokagon election.

For more details on Pow Wow weekend events Saturday and Sunday September 4 and 5, see page 8.

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT September 2010

Potawatomi From Around the Nation Gather in Oklahoma

Pokagons Travel by Bus to Participate in Event

by Melissa Rodriguez

The adventure began at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 5 when 32 Pokagon Band citizens, mostly Elders, met at the bus depot in Dowagiac and boarded the bus. We were determined to go to Shawnee, Oklahoma, or bust, to celebrate and participate in the 2010 Potawatomi Gathering. You could feel everyone's excitement and anticipation: what could we expect? What kinds of thing would we do at the Gathering? Some of us had already experienced a Potawatomi Gathering, while others were going for the first time.

The 17-hour bus ride was full of laughter, talking, movies, raffles, and sleeping. But once we arrived at the Citizen Band's gathering grounds, there was no time for resting. Participants could choose from such activities as workshops for gourd making, flute making, basketry and beading, language classes, swimming, discussions on tribal history and ceremonies, and, of course, the Fire Lake Casino.

There were also many tournaments to partake in: softball, horseshoes, volleyball, Putt-Putt, archery, checkers, chess, and dominoes. The Pokagon Band can be proud to announce that we have a champion checker player: Broderick Race beat out everyone else in the checkers tournament to take first place. Way to go, Brody!

At any given time you could look around the gathering grounds and watch everyone interacting with each other. Talking and laughter could be heard all around you; what a wonderful sound!

In the evenings the Grand Entry took place and there was drumming and dancing until 9:30. It was, as always, moving to watch and participate with our Potawatomi brothers and sisters during this one time of year that we all travel to be together. On Saturday participants witnessed the Handing Off Ceremony announcing that Hannahville Indian Community will host the Gathering of Potawatomi in 2011.

Way too quickly it was Sunday morning, and we once again boarded the bus (with a little less enthusiasm as when we left on Thursday) and headed home to Michigan. Although we were all exhausted from the heat, which climbed to 104 degrees during the Gathering, we left Oklahoma with joy and memories in our hearts that we will carry for years to come. Thanks everyone for making this trip a memorable and fun time for me. When I told people we would be taking a bus to Oklahoma, some looked at me like I was crazy, but I knew I would have fun. Boy, did I! The bus travelers were the best. Everyone helped out along the way, and I want to thank you, especially my husband Tony. See everyone next year in Hannahville!



Above, Jackie Trux, left, and Sally Herrara, right, dance into the evening.



Above, Butch Starrett and Theresa McFall enjoy the Gathering. Right, the intrepid Pokagon travelers stop for a photo at a Route 66 attraction.



Inside This Month

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Pokagon Intern Discovers Family's Heritage



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Reaffirmation Day Celebration Planned

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President Obama Signs Act to Ensure Safer Tribal Communities



Pokagon Intern Discovers Family's Link to the Past

When 21 year-old Caleb Wesaw began his internship with the Pokagon Band's Department of Natural Resources this summer, he expected to learn how to research land classification rules and conduct property analyses. But learning more about his heritage wasn't something he anticipated.

Wesaw, who will be a sophomore at Lake Michigan College, is from Hartford, and he knew that his last name is a significant one in the Pokagon Band's history. But when tribal historic preservation officer Michael Zimmerman Jr asked which of the three Wesaw family lines he was a member of, and how far he could trace his ancestors back, Wesaw drew a blank.

"I said, 'Oh, maybe twenty years,'" he laughed.

Zimmerman asked if Wesaw might be a part of the family related to Mota Wesaw, the leader of villages in what is now Niles and Marcellus, Michigan.

"I decided to go and find out," said Wesaw. "I called my grandfather, and he told me his father and grandfather's name."

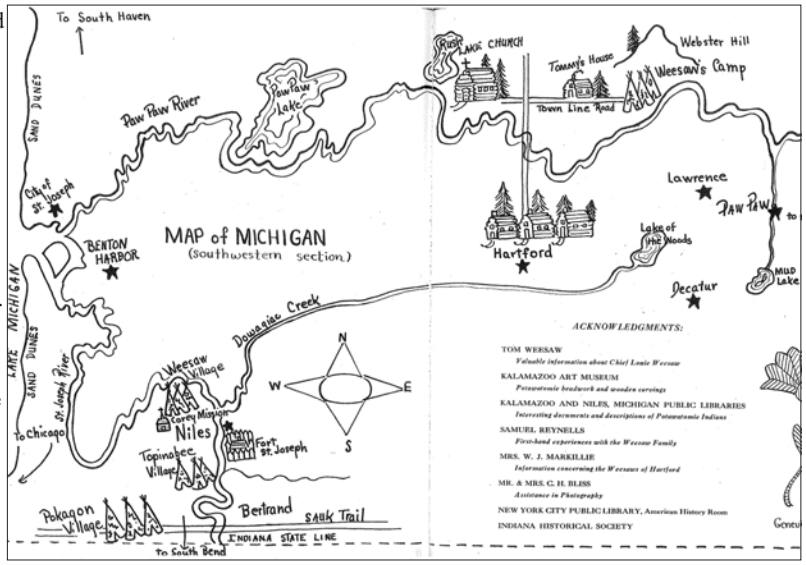
A couple of weeks later, the intern brought in an old children's picture book called *Tommy and the Indians,* which had been in his family his whole life. Wesaw says his father bought him and his sister Natalie first editions of the book. He showed it to Zimmerman, and asked whether it might be useful in helping determine his ancestry. It turns out the book he had owned all his life was the key in deciphering the story of Wesaw's family heritage.

The book, published in 1950 and written by Genevieve Cross, tells a story about a friendship between Chief Louis Wesaw and a young boy named Tom whose pioneer family settled in southwest Michigan. A hand-drawn map details with impressive precision the Paw Paw and St. Joseph River valleys, and the locations of former Pokagon Band villages and European forts. But what was most interesting to Wesaw was a page in the front of the book showing photographs of Tom Wesaw and his four grandchildren. Captions beneath the photos name Tom as Chief Louis Wesaw's grandson, and say that he has two treasured possessions which belonged to his grandfather: a logging chain and a large iron kettle.



The old iron kettle used in the 19th century still belongs to the Wesaw family.

According to Zimmerman, the book proves Caleb Wesaw is a descendant of Louis Wesaw, and connected to Leopold Pokagon distantly through marriage. Back in the mid-18th century, Anaquiba and his wife Katabwe had several children, including Topinabee the Older, Sawawk, Chissahecon, Chebass, Kaukema, and Soowanernuk. Topinabee the Older had several children with his wife Nogewi, including Topinabee the Younger, Mimikwe, Elizabeth, Sinegogua, and Waabizi. Mota Wesaw would marry Sinegogua and father Michael, Samuel, John, Louis, and Mota Wezo. Louis, known as "Chief Louis" in the book, was the father to Tom (who would go on to become a member of The 1st Michigan Sharpshooters, Company K in the Civil War). That Tom's son, Tom, was Gerald Wesaw's father. Gerald is Caleb's grandfather, and one of the children pictured in *Tommy and the Indians.*



The map from the book *Tommy and the Indians.*

"This is what's possible," said Zimmerman. "If enough people get together and talk about family history in detail, I think you'd find this occurring more frequently. It's assumed people around here are related, but it's generally not known exactly how."

As for Caleb Wesaw, he and his family are happy to understand more about their lineage. And the large iron kettle in his grandfather's house—once used by Mota Wesaw to make stew and iskigamizige, boiling sap for sugar making—takes on a greater significance now.

"It's pretty neat; it goes beyond the roll. This one piece of the puzzle was the connector," he said. "Hopefully it won't end with me. We have better proof of who we are and where we come from."

If you'd like to learn about assistance in finding your family's heritage and filling in your family's tree, contact Michael Zimmerman Jr, the tribal historic preservation officer at (269) 782-9602 or michael.zimmerman@pokagonband-nsn.gov.

Pokégnek Yajdanawa

Pokégnek Yajdanawa is the monthly voice of Pokégnek Bodéwadmik, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. Citizens are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry and announcements for publication in *Pokegnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions are subject to the guidelines printed on page 13 of this issue.

The deadline for citizen submissions for the newsletter is always the 14th of the month. Please send items for publication to:

Pokégnek Yajdanawa
Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn. gov

Vaccinations for Adults: You're Never Too Old to Get Immunized

By Shelly Smith, PharmD,
Pokagon Band Pharmacist

You never outgrow the need for vaccines. The specific immunizations you need as an adult are determined by such factors as your age, lifestyle, high-risk conditions, type and locations of travel, and previous immunizations. Throughout your adult life, you need immunizations to get and maintain protection against: flu, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, shingles, pneumococcal, and HPV.

Pneumococcal:

You need a dose if you are over 65 years old, or smoke, or if you are between the ages of 2 and 64 years old and have chronic medical conditions like diabetes, COPD, asthma or other lung disorders, heart failure, or alcoholism. One revaccination may be required five years after the first dose.

Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Td, Tdap)
Tetanus boosters have been recommended every ten years to prevent lock jaw after injury or exposure from deep cuts or accidents. Adacel, a newer agent, had been recommended to be used as one of the boosters injections to protect our small children from pertussis or whooping cough. Recommendations are for all mothers to receive the vaccination just after birth to protect your newborns. Ask your doctor for Adacel vaccination prior to discharge if you have not already gotten it.

Zoster (shingles)
If you are age 60 or older you should get this vaccine now to prevent the debilitating pain with a shingles infection.

Human papillomavirus (HPV)
It is recommended so young women aged 13- 26 years can protect themselves from this virus, which can be associated with cervical cancers, by getting a Gardasil vaccination. The vaccine is given in three doses over six months.

Finally, the flu season is nearly upon us again. Last year there was a great deal of publicity about H1N1 vaccination. The reason why that vaccination had to be given as a separate injection is because it was not one of the virus strains previously seen as problematic. This unique strain of H1N1 had origins from pig species and had never been known to cause any human infection. Vaccines are normally produced six months in advance of the coming season, so this strain was not included in last year's seasonal flu vaccine.

This year it is all rolled into one vaccine. It is highly recommended everyone get the seasonal flu vaccine each year. While you may not ever get sick, you still can be a carrier of the virus to others who are not as healthy as you, including older family members or very young children. Most susceptible are babies younger than six months who cannot get this vaccination. All household members or close contacts, including daycare or babysitters of young babies, should get the vaccine to protect the child.

The Pokagon Department of Health Services will be providing seasonal influenza clinics for all tribal citizens. Please call ahead to make appointments to keep accurate records, and look for the first clinic in early October. We will be providing the seasonal influenza vaccine free to all members, and will not reimburse for this vaccination to any outside providers through CHS. Please call for an appointment for any of the above vaccinations, and watch for the flu clinic dates in the next issue of *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Any questions? Please call the pharmacy department at 782-4141 ext 335.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik Ogitchedaw Society

- Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 at Elders Hall, 53237 Townhall Road, Dowagiac. All tribal veterans are welcome to participate in all events.
- The Veterans Color Guard has been invited to participate in opening ceremonies at the Reaffirmation Day Celebration September 18 at Rodgers Lake beginning at 10 a.m.
- Registration Forms are available for the Ogitchedaw Society. Upon completion and return of registration forms and proper documentation, you will receive a branch of service hat and an Ogitchedaw shirt. To obtain a registration form please contact Butch Starrett, Veterans Committee Chairman, at:

  Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
  Administration Building
  Attn. Butch Starrett
  P.O. Box 180
  Dowagiac, MI 49047
- The code development code is available for review by any tribal veteran. Please contact Butch Starrett, Veterans Committee Chairman, at the address above.

Newsletter Changes In Store

You may notice some changes in *Pokégnek Yajdanawa* over the next few months. The Pokagon Band now has a director of communications, and therefore more resources to spend writing articles, taking photos and keeping readers updated on newsworthy tribal events and stories.

Plans are underway to revise the design and augment the content of the newsletter, and we'd like to hear your feedback, suggestions, and story ideas for the future editions of *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*. Please send your comments and ideas to Paige Risser, director of communications, at newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn.gov .

What I Did during My Summer Vacation: Pokagon Campers' Letters

The Department of Education's summer enrichment program provides Pokagon youth with a stipend to use toward the summer camp of their choice. Here are two postcards the department received from grateful young men who made the most out of their vacation.



I attended the University of Kentucky's football camp this summer. My lifelong dream is to go there for college and play quarterback. My favorite part of camp was when we got to meet all the coaches, like head coach Joker Phillips. I also like when we had scrimmage games and the tournament, which my team won. Thank you for sponsoring me and my camps.

Jacob Pennington
7th grade
Morton Middle School, Lexington, KY



I was able to attend YMCA Camp Pendalouan at Blue Lake in Montague, Michigan. I got to paddle boat, kayak and sail with all my new friends I met at camp. My time at camp was six days and five nights, and we had 11 boys in my cabin. My favorite part of camp was the swim test. By the second day I was the best swimmer for my age, with a blue wrist band. I just want to say thanks.

Chance Heineman

Q & A Profile with Chief Rachel Sadowski

I usually write articles on public and personal safety subjects, but often I will throw in an interview with someone who works or volunteers for the Band or is a Pokagon Band citizen. I believe it is important for everyone to know their neighbor. Many times we know of them, but we don't know them. Though we are part of one community, we all have many different experiences and these experiences shape our lives.

This interview was conducted with Chief Rachel Sadowski of the Pokagon Band Tribal Police Department August 9.

Q. What do you do for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians?

A. I am the Chief of Police. My job as the Chief of Police requires I attend meetings with various tribal departments to discuss such items as grant writing or community programs. I meet with area law enforcement agencies as well as the FBI to compare information and gather intelligence that ultimately protects the Pokagon Band and their citizens. I meet with Tribal Council to present budget proposals, staffing concerns, and to present proactive community awareness efforts such as the Community Resource Officer division.



Chief Rachel Sadowski

Q. When and where were you born?

A. I was born on January 25, 1976 in Wayne Michigan. I believe the hospital has changed its name. It was Annapolis Hospital, and now it's called Oakland Hospital.

Q. Where did you grow up as a child?

A. I grew up in Clayton, Michigan in Lenawee County. My parents have a small piece of property there. They still live there.

Q. What do you remember most as a child?

A. My dad was a steel fabricator and he would make us all kinds of cool toys. We would be running around the house and property with steel toys. Those were fun times.

Q. What event in your life has had the most effect on the way you view life?

A. As a child who experienced both physical and mental abuse, I decided to become a police officer. As a police officer I was able to help victims make it through the process of seeing their offender go to jail. Helping children and youth is very important to me.

Q. Who do you most respect, and why?

A. My father. He is the hardest working man I know. I remember him getting up early in the morning, and going to bed late after work. My work ethic comes from him. If my dad could still be working he would be. When I think of my dad, I think of the phrase "never give up."

Q. If you could meet anyone, past or present, who would it be and why?

A. My Great-Grandmother. The last record of her was in the 1910 census, after that she disappeared. No one in the family ever speaks of her. I would like to know what happened to her.

Q. When you hear the word "respect," what do you think of?

A. I think of my father. He has always been my role model. He is everything to me. I love him so much. I've always wanted to be just like him. As a young girl my mother would say "you are just like your dad."

Q. How long have you worked for the Pokagon Band?

A. I started with the Pokagon Band November 15, 2004. It's easy to remember because November 15 is opening day of gun deer season in Michigan.

Q. What brought you here?

A. I wanted a new and different type of law enforcement environment. I describe this job to everyone as a hybrid type of law enforcement. Our area of coverage includes four counties in Michigan and six counties in Northern Indiana. Our officers carry three types of citation booklets, state, federal, and tribal. This means our officers are required to know state, federal, and tribal law. They handle all types of cases which range from felony assaults to misdemeanor theft.



Jaime Sumners

Community Resource Officer

Pokagon Band

Tribal Police Department.

58155 M-51 South

Dowagiac, MI 49047

269.782.2232 Office

Police Explorers Program In the Works

The Pokagon Police Department is looking at launching a Police Explorers Program, and the department has received many calls of interest. The response is encouraging. For those who are interested, we are still in the development stages, working on putting together a presentation for Tribal Council approval defining the costs and administrative structures.

Teens ages 14 to 20 could participate in a program that allows them to become familiar with their police department, and explore whether they want to pursue a career in law enforcement. Teens might learn the ins and outs of accident and domestic violence investigation, building/vehicle searches, firearms safety, and parade and drill skills.

A minimum of five youths nd five adults would have monthly meetings at the police department and would receive a uniform, duty gear (a duty belt, handcuffs and case, flashlight and holder) and they will spend their time with police explorer advisors who will be their instructors. There is also a chance for the group to participate in state and national competitions.

"I can personally say that the Police Explorer Program is a great thing, as I was one 'back in the day,'" says Police Chief Rachel Sadowski-Spiegel. "The program showed me so many things that pushed me ahead in my college classes."

Take Advantage of Home Safety Inspections

The Tribal Police Department offers a home safety inspection free to all Pokagon Band citizens. Call the Tribal Police to schedule an appointment at 269.782.2232 and ask for Officer Sumners or Officer Hohnke.

Pokagon Pharmacy Under Development; Seven Day Renewal Notice Requested

By Shelly Smith, PharmD, Pokagon Band Pharmacist

The dictionary defines *home* as any place of residence, refuge or shelter. The Department of Health Services is committed to creating a *medical* home for you. A medical home is a place where you can expect or seek a complete circle of healthcare services, providing you with unbroken quality care from a team of professionals, including doctors, nurses, and pharmacists who will work together to restore your health.

We are excited to be involved in developing your tribal pharmacy through the Department of Health Services. We wanted to take a moment to share with you our programs and plans to that describe our part in your medical home.

Pharmacy will work hard to deliver the medications that are needed for your wellness, but more importantly, the clinical pharmacist will assess and help the medical staff to adjust your drug therapy to best meet your health needs. Our goal is to minimize the dependence on medicines and bring good health back to our community.

Looking at drug lists and working with your provider takes extra time and attention. Pharmacy is working hard to get the medications you need to you, but your safety and quality care is our main purpose. We ask for your help and patience as we work through this process. The pharmacy staff requires extra time to process and make intervention as needed in your drug therapy.

It is also our goal to include you as an active player in your health. We want to better educate you on your medications and disease states, and empower you to be involved in your care. Keep an eye on your medications as they run low, and be aware of when you will need refills. We respectfully request a seven day advance notice for all refill requests or prescription renewals of a medication you are already taking. Please call all your refills to the pharmacy department at 782-4141 ext 335. Be sure to provide the following information: Your name, date of birth, a phone number at which you can be reached at within two hours, and the exact medication names you wish to be refilled.

For any prescriptions that are new to you, never been taken before, or an adjustment in your current treatment we will make every effort to make them available within 24 hours. Our medical staff is asking you to participate in creating your overall wellness. If you have appointments, come prepared with a list of current medicines you are taking. Bring in the bottles the medicines are in so we can review them with you. You deserve the extra mile in providing the best care possible. Help us to provide you a medical home for maintaining and restoring your health.

Back to School: Pack Nutrition into Your Kid's Lunches

By Susan Gundersen, RD, Public Health Nutritionist

Are you looking for tasty school lunch ideas that kids will actually look forward to eating? Or perhaps you regularly see that well-prepared, nutritious lunch make a round trip from home to school and then back home again with very little of it being eaten. The well-packed lunch box or bag that your child will actually look forward to eating takes a little planning, some smart shopping, and the helping hands of your youngster.

The formula for packed lunch essentials includes foods from four of the food groups including

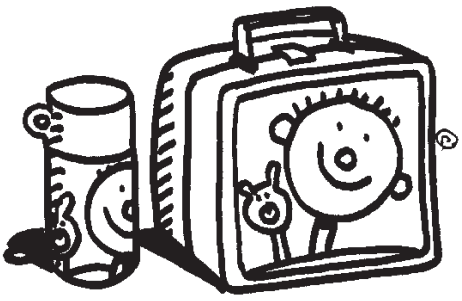
- A protein source
- A whole grain
- Crunchy foods (vegetables or fruit)
- Something to drink (milk bought at school or 100% fruit juice).

Tip #1: borrow from the success of the pros. Assemble your own "lunchable," but make it a healthier version with lower salt and low-fat meat and cheese choices.

Tip #2: buy some small containers and use them to hold salsa, hummus, bean dip, low-fat ranch, yogurt, etc. Kids love to dip so include healthful dippers—baked corn/flour chips, pretzel sticks, raw veggies, cracker bits, apple wedges, grapes, just to name a few. Or try a food safe container like a flat, plastic, mini tackle box with its many divided compartments and tight fitting lid to hold mini portions of several choices of food items.



Tip #3: Variety rules! Use cookie cutters to press out different shapes of whole grain bread and let your kids assemble their own "sandwiches" either at home or at school. Substitute soft pita "pocket" bread, fresh tortillas to make wrap sandwiches, or try mini bagels, English muffins, or biscuits in place of regular bread. A cup of dried cereal or several crackers can replace that slice of bread, too.



Tip #4: Remember it is wonderful to give kids a choice but as parents, it is our responsibility to limit options to healthy ones. Manageable choices are a few items to select from. Ask if they'd rather have grapes or strawberries, baked chips or pretzels, chicken or peanut butter.

Tip #5: Don't forget to involve your child. Remember the special trips to the store to buy that special style lunch box? A child who is old enough to carry a lunch box is old enough to learn to take care of it. Easy tasks are: throw away food wrappers, get individual containers soaking, or wipe out the inside and outside. A bonus is you're teaching them to look after themselves.

Lunch is an important part of the school day. As parents we want to make it nourishing and trust that it will be eaten. Our children look forward to this time away from learning. So, don't forget to pack some love too. Write a note, send a picture, happy face, sticker, joke or a favorite comic strip from the morning newspaper. For recipes or comments, please call Susan, RD, public health nutritionist at Health Services, at 269-782-4141.

Mark your calendars:
Men's Wellness Fair
Thursday, October 7, 2010
3:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Pokagon Band Health Services
Plan to join us and
watch for the mailing in October
Call 888-440-1234 for more details

The Pokagon Band Department of Health Services will now accept a copy of a citizen's tribal identification card and a Michigan/Indiana license or a copy of a Michigan/Indiana picture identification card as the necessary proof of identification for department needs.

Health Services Moving to a Managed Care System

On October 1, the Department of Health Services will begin a 120-day process of coming into compliance with Indian Health Services policy regarding Contract Health Service funding. To ensure proper use of CHS and clinic services, DOHS will transition all eligible Pokagon Band citizens to a managed care approach. This Q&A will help citizens better understand the need for this change, and how it will all happen.

Q: Why is the Band switching to a managed care approach?
A: Indian Health Services provides Contract Health Services funding to those tribes who are starting and have no structure in place to offer health care to its citizens. However, once a tribe builds a clinic and sets up an organization to provide primary and chronic disease care to citizens, CHS funding should only be used for referrals to outside health care specialists that the Band's clinic can't provide.

Q: The current system is working for me. Is this change necessary?
A: Not only is it necessary, if this transition does not happen, the Pokagon Band risks being out of compliance, being the subject of an investigation, losing health care autonomy, and having funding reduced or eliminated. Plus, the DOHS is committed to being the best financial stewards possible.

Q: What does DOHS managed care mean for me?
A: The Department of Health Services will become your lifelong medical home. The health care providers will know and understand your medical history, and can participate completely in your health care. The medical staff, behavioral health staff and social workers on staff can make sure that your care is holistic, medically sound, necessary and of the highest quality. The staff will know patients well, and provide a continuity of care. Plus, DOHS will be able to bring more specialty care services into the clinic. Under the current system, there's no way to verify that citizens are receiving quality care.

Q: How much will this cost?
A: This transition will save the Pokagon Band money. For example, we currently spend hundreds of thousands of dollars a year on prescription medication. Part of the transition will be to establish an on-site pharmacy at the clinic. Once DOHS has its own pharmacy up and running, it can reduce pharmacy costs and maximize government pricing, and staff pharmacy professionals will be able to provide high-quality, one-on-one services to Band members. And that savings ultimately can be put back into providing better services to citizens.

Four Winds News

Two recent changes to Four Winds personnel policies can affect Pokagon citizens and spouses. Any Pokagon citizen or spouse who is offered a position at Four Winds will be eligible to start with full time status, even if the position is posted as part time. And any Pokagon citizen or spouse who has been separated for cause, but still maintains a rehire status, may apply for rehire after three months as opposed to the standard six months. Both changes are already in effect.

Plus, after due consideration, the Gaming Authority has authorized changing the discount tribal citizens receive at The Buffet from 25 percent to a 40 percent discount. This applies to parties of up to seven diners on one citizen's identification card.

Tribal Member Labor Pool Created for Housing Contracts

The Department of Housing is creating a tribal citizen labor pool for the construction of the Community Center on Dailey Road in Dowagiac. If you have been on a previous list, please reapply.

The labor pool list will be available to the contractors who will be working on that project. We will amend the list at the beginning of future projects as they develop. Applying for the labor pool does not guarantee that a tribal member will be employed. When contractors look for additional people, they may require an interview and citizens will be chosen according to the needs of the contractor. For safety reasons, unskilled people cannot be placed into skilled positions. Ultimately the contractor is responsible, so we cannot require them to make any placements that they are not comfortable with. Contractors will be required to access the tribal labor pool prior to hiring from the general public.

In order to be placed in the labor pool, interested citizens must complete a general application. This application will be available at the housing office in the new administration building. The application will be asking for skill sets and job experience. Please bring that information with you when you come to fill out an application.

Any questions regarding the labor pool or application process can be directed to April Shepard, Department of Housing, at (269) 783-0443.

September Students of the Month

by Rebecca Accoe and Susan Doyle, Education Associates

Joshua H. Rader is a tenth grader at Shannon Forest Christian School in Greenville, SC. Joshua's parents are Lawrence "Dino" Rader, Jr. and Lisa Rader. His brother is Lawrence "Freddy" Rader, III. Joshua enjoys all types of food, including sushi. Joshua likes to hang out with his friends and play video games. He plays baseball, basketball, and soccer for his high school. However, he likes pitching the most. Given that he likes playing on his high school sports teams, his goal is to finish high school with good grades and go to college at Clemson University or the University of South Carolina to study accounting. Since Joshua is outside of the tribal area he tries to take advantage of the Summer Enrichment Program. When asked what makes you most proud to be Native American, Joshua answered, "I think I am a very special person to be a Native American. It is not something that many people can say about themselves. My grandfather was from Dowagiac and told me and my father several stories about our tribe. One day I hope to go to Michigan to find out more about my heritage."



Collin Church, above, is an 11th grader from Hopkins High School. He is the son of Conrad and Kathy Church. He has a sister named Cassondra. Collin has been involved in tribal activities by attending summer camp in Dowagiac. He also participated in MSU's Native American and Hispanic Business Students' workshop in 2009 and Summer Enrichment. He enjoys lacrosse, soccer, basketball, and he loves ramen noodles. Someday he would like to be a math teacher. He is proud to be a Native American because the culture is so rare and it is cool to be special and unique. He also loves being Native American because of the awesome fry bread and corn soup; he says, "It's the best in the world."

Pokagon Band Honors High School Graduates at Senior Awards Banquet

By Becky Accoe
Graduate highlights by Becky Accoe, Penny Brant, and Susan Doyle, K-12 staff

The Pokagon Band celebrated its high school graduates at the Senior Awards Banquet July 9 at Southwestern Michigan College. The night began and ended with a hand drum song performed by John T Warren. Alicia Atkinson accompanied him with the songs. Prayer for the food was given by Tom Topash. Graduates, guests, and Pokagon Band staff enjoyed a catered dinner, slideshow presentation listing the senior's accomplishments and future plans and goals, and an awards ceremony. High school graduates that attended the ceremony received a special tote filled with supplies to get them started on their first few college years. Leather portfolios were presented to the GED recipients through the Workforce Investment Act program. Many graduating high school Pokagon members will be pursuing a two to four year degree from a college or university. The high school seniors feel a great sense of accomplishment having graduated from high school, please congratulate the below students on their success.



Ashleigh Marie Holovack is the daughter of Victoria & Bennie Davis II and Scott & Rebecca Holovack. She graduated from Baker High School in Baker, FL. She participated in band, drama, JROTC, and the National Beta Club. She graduated with 3.8 GPA and was a recipient of the Bright Futures Scholarship. Her graduation plans are to join the U.S. Navy in pursuit of a career in law enforcement while continuing education in forensic science. Congratulations, Ashleigh!



Ronald Gary Puruleski is the son of Ronald Puruleski and Roberta Hesselink. He graduated from Cadillac Senior High School, Cadillac, MI. He was involved with many things in high school including: cross country states (varsity), track & field state qualifier (varsity), regional champs, student & class council. He plans on attending Ferris State University this fall. He would like to go into pre-med. He will possibly run cross country and track, and try out for the basketball team. Keep up the good work!



Ashley Farver is the daughter of Brad and Julie Farver. She graduated from Schoolcraft High School in Schoolcraft, MI. She participated in the National Honor Society all four years, varsity basketball three years (won Districts in 2010), and varsity softball four years. Ashley's graduation plans are to attend Kalamazoo Valley Community College this fall, with a scholarship to play softball. Then she would like to transfer to Central Michigan College for sports medicine degree. Weye I, Ashley!

Jared Fabian Wesaw graduated from Volinia School, in Cassopolis, MI. He participated in the Volinia Maple Fest. He has been involved in the Pokagon Band through the Notre Dame Labs and Summer Programs: 2007, 2008, and the 2009 Summer Youth Internship. His graduation plans are to attend Southwestern Michigan College to pursue a degree in Psychology. After that he will transfer to Western Michigan College for Bachelors Degree. His mother is Jamie Ledesma and Rhonda Keene is his aunt. We are proud of you, Jared!

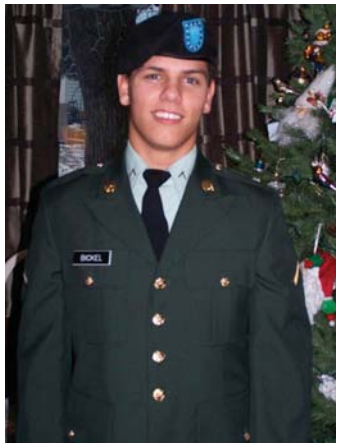




Skylar Rae Herman is the daughter of Rechelle Herman (Morseau). She graduated from Niles High School, Niles, MI. She participated in: Women's Choice, Counterpoints, and cheerleading for four years. Skylar was second runner up for Miss Niles and was first runner up for Homecoming Queen. She worked for Pokagon Summer Youth Internship Program two years with the Head Start program. She plans on attending Southwestern Michigan College and will enroll in the nursing program. Keep up the good work!



Michael Newcomer is the son of Melissa and Tony Rodriguez. He graduated from Niles High School in Niles, MI. His plans include continuing with the paramedic program through SMC and then onto a four year college after receiving Associates. He has received his EMT Certification and plans to apply to Medic One of Berrien County. Michael, we are proud of you!



Aaron Riley Bickel is the son of Deidre Ecker and Mike Bickel. He graduated from Mishawaka High School, Mishawaka, IN. His plans include college and the Army. Congratulations, Aaron!

Continued on page 10

Happy 2nd birthday to
David Carlyle Shepard III
Son of Shannon Meyers and David Shepard Jr.
We love you very much!
Love,
Mom, Grandma Falk, your sister Taylor, and
your brothers Jackson and Kenny



Congratulations Brianna Cadoret on your graduation from Central High School! And good luck at college in Texas this Fall.
Love, your family



Congratulations
Devin Wyld Boehm on receiving your black belt! And a big happy birthday September 1st. 11 years old! Happy birthday, too, David Boehm, September 12.
Love, Grandma Petey/Mom

Congratulations to Michael Newcomer, son of Melissa Rodriguez, step son of Tony Rodriguez, and grandson on Marie Manley, for the receiving your EMT License and for your new job position at Medic 1 in Benton Harbor! We are so very proud of you and all your accomplishments!
Love,
Mom, Tony, Richard and Grandma

Happy Birthday
Gary Morseau
Love,
Martha, Josh, Sydney, and Chelsy



Happy 3rd Birthday
Evie Alexandra 9/8
I can't believe it's gone by so fast.
I Love You,
Mommy



Happy FIRST Birthday to my wonderful daughter, MaKenzie Elizabeth Martin, 9/9
Love, Mommy, Nana & Papa, Uncle Bud and Angel



Happy 1st Birthday Andrew
Love Mom, Dad, Lilly and Kendyl
Nana and papa John, Papa,
Greatgrandma Peters,
Aunt Sheree and family
Uncle Brandan and family

Congratulations David and Brianna on your new beautiful baby daughter, Lillian Reagan Wesaw. Born August 5, 2010 at 6:39 a.m., weighed 5 lbs.,14.6 ounces, 19 1/4 inches long.

Happy Birthday!
Kayley Gillette-9/1
Aunt Marie Cundet-9/13
Aunt Sandra Wallin-9/20
Ashley Cundet-9/22
Love, Kathy

Happy 40th Birthday!
Lisa Johnson-9/30
Love ya, Kathy & Mike

Happy Birthday!
Mike Goodson-9/6
I Love You, Kathy

Happy 1st Birthday!
MaKenzie Martin-9/9
We Love You, Aunt Kat & Uncle Mike

Happy Birthday MOM!
We love you!
Ashley, Lilly and Andrew
Sheree, Aidan
and Brandan

In Loving Memory of Our Father
Oddil A. Shaer
January 8, 1938 to August 29, 2009

Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on the ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet white doves in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there, I did not die.
Hopi Indian Prayer

We Miss You and We Will Love You Always,
Maria, Gianna, and Liana

Decendendents of James Alexander Wesaw and Edith V. Johnson met Saturday August 7, at the home of Harry and Jodi Wesaw, Lake Of The Woods, Decatur. Francis Gordon Wesaw, 85, their only surviving son, was unable to attend. Family members from age 1 through 87 enjoyed a delicious potluck, games, and water sports. Boat rides were very popular. Photos and memories were exchanged, and plans made for next year.



Happy 5th Birthday Lilly
Love Mom, Daniel, Andrew and Kendyl
Nana and Papa John, Papa,
Greatgrandma Peters,
Aunt Sheree and family
Uncle Brandan and family

Minors Trust Info

To help keep you informed of ongoing market and economic events and our related strategies, our investment management professionals host a series of Investment Market Update calls. Please take time (approximately 30-40 minutes) to listen to these calls, you will find the information shared to be of value. While representatives cannot take questions during the calls, they will work to address topics sent prior to each call. If you have a specific question or topic you would like to have addressed, please contact the U.S. Bank Private Client Reserve and they will pass along the information to the speakers. In addition, if you are unavailable to listen to the live calls, you will be able to access a recorded replay. Details are provided below.

Next 2010 Call Dates

Wednesday, September 15th
Wednesday, October 20th

Call Time

11:00 a.m. (central) / 12:00 p.m. (eastern)

Phone Number: 888-790-4906

Participant password: U.S. Bank

Recorded Replay Phone Number: 866-351-2778

U.S. Bank Speakers:

Mark Jordahl – *President, Wealth Management Group*

Tim Leach – *Chief Investment Officer, Asset Management Group*

Plus, other key investment and economic experts

Questions? Please call (800) 863-3479, the US. Bank Private Client Reserve exclusive number for all Pokagon Citizens.

continued from page 7

Jamie Ann Brown graduated from Brown's Home School, during which she played basketball and earned the Gazette's Player of the Year, First Team Point Guard, and National's Home School Third Team Point Guard. Other activities included soccer, volleyball, and a rock band. Artistically, she earned the Best of Youth division – Art Market- Eiteljorg Museum – Black Ash Basket. Her parents are Jim and Jennie Brown. Jamie will be attending Grand Valley State University in Allendale, MI to study Graphic Design. Good going, Jamie!



Congratulations to **Shandiin Church**, for graduating from Albuquerque High School. Shandiin's parents are Leonard K. and Lora Church. Shandiin participated in: varsity volleyball, basketball, track, Army Jr. ROTC, and Varsity Unarmed Drill Team. She also received special recognition for being an Albuquerque Public Schools 2009-2010 Selfless Senior. Shandiin plans to attend the University of Michigan to major in sociology. After graduating from U of M her goal is to commission into the U.S. Marine Corps to become a military police officer and then become a civilian cop in the state of New Mexico. We are so proud of you, Shandiin.



Please join us in congratulating **Scott Gephart**, son of Ruth and Donald Gephart, for graduating from Michigan Lutheran High School in St. Joseph, MI. Scott participated in: varsity soccer (captain and named MVP for soccer), selected to Basketball and Football Sports Fest for Michigan, varsity basketball (team MVP) and football (special teams MVP). His graduation goals are to be the kicker/punter for a collegiate football team. Weye i, Scott!



Best wishes to **Samantha Smalley**, of Watervliet, MI, for graduating from Watervliet High School. Beth Edelberg is the mother of this graduating high school senior. Samantha participated in cheerleading and volleyball. She was involved in Pokagon Band Programs which included working at Head Start through the Summer Youth Internship Program. After graduation from high school, Samantha plans on enrolling at Lake Michigan College to become an Ultra Sound Technician. Congratulations, Samantha!
A special congratulation goes to **Derrek Hiler** for graduation from Dowagiac Union High School. Derrek's mother is Shannon Adams. Best of luck, Derrek.
Dylan Johnson graduated from Edwardsburg High School, Edwardsburg, MI. His parents are Lisa and Van Johnson. His MME scores made Dylan eligible for the Michigan Promise Scholarship and he received the Michigan Competitive Scholarship Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Academic Achievement, as well as the Silver Level Certificate for NCRC. Dylan has been part of the Pokagon Band's Summer Youth Internship Program for two years, working in the Maintenance Department. Future plans are college and then eventually enter the Marines. Good job, Dylan.
Taylor Ann Koselak, the daughter of Rob and Leslie McCreary, graduated from Mishawaka High School in Mishawaka, IN. Now that she has graduated from High School, Taylor is planning to enjoy time with her family and friends and attend college. Weye I, Taylor!

Corey Ridenour of Kalamazoo, MI, is Kelli Ridenour's son. He has been active in academics and graduated with Honors, has been a member of the: National Art Honor Society, Renaissance Council (both on the Executive Board, and as Treasurer), and Ignite Mentoring for three years. He volunteered over 500 hours through Community Service. Corey participated in sports, as well: football (including a semi-pro team), track and field, and he kept statistics for both men and women's basketball teams as all three levels of play. Weye I, Corey!



Congratulations to **Stephanie Pearl Smedberg** of Pullman, MI, for graduating from Great Lakes Adventist Academy in Cedar Lakes, MI. Stephanie's parents are Steven Smedberg and Minnie Barnes. Stephanie was born in Escanaba, Michigan. She plans to attend SMC this fall. Keep up the good work, Stephanie.



We are pleased to recognize **Michael A. Warren** for graduating from Hudsonville High School, Hudsonville, MI. Michael's parents are Jodi and Ken Warren. He participated in: football, baseball, and band. His graduation plans include enrollment at Grand Rapids Community College for fall 2010. Michael plans on taking classes for botany. Best of luck, Michael.

As the banquet cakes stated,
Mno ki-mikche'wi!
You worked well!

New Construction Spurs Apprenticeship Opportunities

By John Hieronymus, Human Resources

Recently, representatives from the Pokagon Band, the U.S. Department of Labor and several Michigan state agencies met to discuss a Pokagon Band apprenticeship program to provide on-the-job and class room training to for tribal citizens. State and federal funding is currently available to help pay for the development of apprenticeship programs that could support tribal construction projects. Based on this initial meeting, staff is developing a proposal for Tribal Council to review that would spell out the structure of this program, the training areas that would be offered, and a project time line of when the various stages would be ready. Read on for more information

Q: What is an apprenticeship?
A: It is a combination of on-the-job learning and related classroom instruction where workers learn the practical and conceptual aspect of a highly skilled occupation. Apprenticeships can be sponsored by individual employers, joint employer and labor groups and employer associations.
Q: In what jobs are apprenticeships available?
A: The Pokagon Band would start with the basic **c**arpenter/millwright job because of its broad nature. Eventually, we would like to increase the types of jobs that will be covered to include other trades such as pipe fitter, HVAC technician, or electrician. The Department of Labor has approved more than 860 different occupations for apprenticeships.
Q: How long does an apprenticeship take to complete?
A: Most programs require four years and at least 2,576 hours to complete. Two thousand hours are devoted to on the job learning under the supervision of a journey-level craft person or trade professional. Five hundred and seventy-six hours of related classroom instruction are provided at a community college program or apprenticeship school.
Q: How does the apprentice get paid?
A: Usually, certified programs pay the apprentices a percentage of the area's prevailing craft wage, and pay increases are possible as the apprentice completes classes and demonstrates increased skills on his or her particular craft. As the apprentice completes classes and consistently performs assignments at required skill levels, his or her percentage of the craft's prevailing wage will increase, to the point that when the apprenticeship is completed, she or he would be earning whatever the qualified current journey person in the labor market would be paid. The apprentices would be the employees of the Tribe's sub-contractors.
Q: What are the entry requirements for an apprenticeship?
A: The Pokagon Band can set up an apprenticeship committee that would determine the exact entry requirements. Age minimums are typically set at 18 years old, but some programs provide for 16 year olds to enroll in a school-to-registered apprenticeship program option. The classroom training is based on reading and math skills at a tenth grade level; if the candidate is currently in the process of earning a GED, he or she can get started, based on what the committee would eventually agree to. The reading and math capabilities would need to be at a level to complete the required classes, and getting a GED completed within an agreed to time period. All candidates would be interviewed by a panel, and qualities such as dependability, working well with others, safe working habits, ability to lift/carry/climb/hammer/saw/read a tape measure/use hand tools/be alcohol and drug free are probed to select candidates that have the highest potential of successful program completion.
Q: Would there be other options that would include preparing to become a licensed sub-contractor in Michigan or a different craft trade after starting the program?
A: We are interested in providing training and experience that will positively impact tribal citizens and their families in building marketable skills and earning a good living. To that end, we have been discussing certificates of completion at one, two, three and four years, which would allow for apprentices to work for a variety of co-sponsors that are working for the tribe. Apprentices could also sit for the state of Michigan's licensing exam and go into a business for themselves or another firm. We want the program to grow and be flexible to match the tribe's needs and the interests' of our apprentices.
Q: If I am interested in learning more about apprenticeship opportunities with the tribe, what can I do?
A: Interested candidates can send their resume and a cover letter explaining their interest in our program via email: hrjobs@pokagonband-nsn.gov , fax: 269.782.4253 , or mail (Attn: HR Apprenticeship, P.O. Box 180, Dowagiac, MI 49047).

Learn How to Build Wealth by Investing

Door prizes galore!

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn how to invest your personal funds.

While many of us know that it's wise to prepare for retirement, the thought of making decisions about stocks, bonds, and mutual funds can be intimidating. Our upcoming September workshop will demystify the entire process of investing. Fred Lamble, and Kathy Ann Reinhardt, Relationship Managers with Key Bank, will review types of investments, help us understand what to look for and what to look out for when making investment decisions. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer period. So don't miss out--learn how to make your money for you.

What: Financial Planning Workshop
When: Thursday September 16th - 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Where: Key Bank building, 202 S. Michigan, South Bend, Indiana
For Whom: All Pokagon Band tribal citizens and spouses/partners--*regardless* of level of income or county of residence
What else: Light meal and refreshments will be served
What to do: Call right away! Seating is limited. Contact April Shepard, Housing Department at (269) 462-4251 or (877) 983-0385
What not: Please note that childcare will **not** be provided

Brought to you by Pokagon Band's Community Financial Empowerment Program which offers workshops and individual assistance in 1) personal financial management skills, 2) small business development assistance and 3) wealth building.

Celebrate Reaffirmation Day September 18

Mark your calendars for the Pokagon Band's Reaffirmation Day celebration Saturday, September 18 at Rodgers Lake in Dowagiac. Come for food, fun, cultural activities and giveaways (we have a huge amount of donated tableware products from American Greetings--mostly napkins--to distribute). Please be ready to present your tribal ID to participate in the raffle drawing, and bring your own lawnchairs. Pokagon tribal art vendors are welcome, please call Melissa Rodriguez at (269) 462-4203 for details. The Tribal Police Department will be hosting a Bike Rodeo and giving away bicycle helmets for both adults and children, which will be fitted specifically to ensure your safety. Bring your bike and try out the safety/obstacle course, too. And if you haven't had a chance to check out the new adminstration building, two tours during the day will showcase the facility.

Reaffirmation Day Schedule

8 a.m.
Fun run/walk
10:00
Opening ceremonies
10:30
Bike rodeo and helmet giveaway/check
10:30 - 11:30
Historical presentation with Ben Secunda, Ph.D.
11:30
Adminstration building tour
noon
Lunch
1 p.m.
raffle drawings
1:30
Administration building tour

Native Foster Parents Needed

Our traditions tell us the most sacred beings among our Anishnabe people are our children and our Elders. Our children have just come from being with the Creator in the Spirit World, and our Elders are facing the West on their way to the Spirit World to be with the Creator again.

As a Tribal nation, we recognize our responsibility "to provide for the welfare, care and protection of the children," through our Child Protection Code. "The care and custody of the Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, as such the welfare of its children is of paramount importance to the Band" says our Family Welfare Commission Ordinance.

There are no words in the Potawatomi language for the term "foster parents." Native people have had to adapt, and the use of this term is now a necessity. Sometimes within our family framework there is turmoil and our children suffer. Some of our children need care and protection. Do you have in your spirit and your home a place for a child who needs a temporary family? Have you ever thought about being a foster parent?

We realize you will have many questions about foster parenting and we urge you to contact our Social Services Department at (269) 782-8998 and ask for Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, our Indian Child Welfare Worker.

South Bend Area Office Schedule

Mondays: Housing staff will be available to provide information on housing programs.

1st Tuesday of the month: Health Services social worker
2nd Tuesday of the month: Contract Health Services processor
3rd Tuesday of the month: Community Health Nurse
4th Tuesday of the month: Community Health Representative
Each Tuesday: Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, foot care, diabetes management and prevention by appointment.

Wednesdays: Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and Workforce Investment Act applications.

Fridays: Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the daycare program will be available.

Changes Made to the Band's Burial Fund Code

The Tribal Council amended the Pokagon Band Burial Fund Code. For a copy of an amended version of the Burial Fund Code, please visit the Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov. Provided below is summary of the amendments.

Eligibility for the Burial Benefit– Changes to Eligibility Requirements Regarding Children Who Are Not Enrolled

Children of Pokagon Band members who are eligible for enrollment with the Band, but not yet enrolled, are covered by the Burial Benefit only if they are 5 years of age or younger. The Burial Benefit now covers Stillborn Children.

Payment of Burial Benefit – Changes to Payment Structure Regarding Distribution of Excess Funds

Previously, after the payment of monument, funeral, and funeral luncheon costs, any Burial Benefit funds remaining were distributed. The Burial Benefit of $10,000 will now be used solely to pay for the cost of a monument, funeral, and luncheon. After the payment of those three expenses, no excess funds will be distributed.

Reimbursement for Prepayment of Funeral and/or Monument Expenses – New Provision Permits Reimbursement for Prepaid Expenses Now in Limited Circumstances

If a Pokagon Band member prepaid the cost of his or her funeral and/or monument expenses via an irrevocable agreement with a funeral home or monument company on or before May 8, 2010, then the Pokagon Band will reimburse the Pokagon Band member the cost of such prepaid expenses, in accordance with the dollar limitations provided for funeral and monument expenses in the Code. Following reimbursement by the Band of the prepayment expenses, the member will not be covered by the Burial Benefit upon his or her death, to the extent the Band previously reimbursed the member for such expenses.

This is only a summary. Please review the Burial Fund Code for more specific details. If you have additional questions concerning these amendments or the Burial Fund in general, please contact the Band's Department of Social Services at (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777.

Campers Enjoy More Culture, Crafts and Canoeing

By Rebecca Accoe

With great input from last year's summer camp kids and counselors, this year's summer camp had more culture, crafts, and canoeing. The Pokagon Band's Summer Camp was split into three sessions with more than ninety campers.

Session I, second through fourth graders, participated in a Summer Ceremony at the Long House, language classes, a nature walk, fishing, canoeing, and camp fires. Session II, high schoolers, enjoyed several Sunrise Ceremonies at the Ishkode'. This particular group of campers made wind turbines, solar panels, leather bags, lacrosse sticks, and corn soup. The campers also attended fire teachings for the men and water ceremonies for the women. Session III, fifth through eighth graders, attended a drum social and a sunrise ceremony at the Ishkode', learned pow wow etiquette, and how to peyote stitch feathers. They also made solar powered cars.

All groups dealt with the weather's torrential down pours, strong winds, and power outages. Campers and staff handled themselves very well and made the best of risky weather. Most kids will be back next year, and we can't wait.



John Pigeon helps campers plant sweetgrass and cedar trees by the ponds in the camp grounds near Rogers Lake.

Deadline to receive changes/updates/additions in Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date for direct deposits
Monday, August 16, 2010	Mon, Aug 30, 2010	Tues, Aug 31, 2010
Wednesday, September 15, 2010	Wed, Sept 29, 2010	Thurs, Sept 30, 2010
Friday, October 15, 2010	Thurs, Oct 28, 2010	Fri, Oct 29, 2010
Monday, November 15, 2010	Tues, Nov 23, 2010	Wed, Nov 24, 2010

Guidelines for Pokégnek Yajdanawa Submissions

Enrolled citizens of the Pokagon Band are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry, and announcements for publication in Pokégnek Yajdanawa. Submissions shall be the views and product of the submitting member. Submissions written by or to a third-party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to Pokégnek Yajdanawa are not original.

Anonymous or "name withheld" submissions will not be published. Members shall include their tribal enrollment number, full name, and mailing address with all newsletter submissions. Tribal enrollment number and mailing address will be used for verification purposes and will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Newsletter staff will contact members should any reason arise that may delay or prevent posting of newsletter submissions. To ensure timely communication with members regarding their newsletter submissions, members may choose to provide additional contact information such as a phone number or e-mail address. Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and other provided contact information will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Newsletter staff reserves the right to refuse submissions based on the following criteria;

1. False, misleading, or defamatory;
2. Discriminatory, sexist, racist, demeaning, insulting, or otherwise offensive to another;
3. Threatening, harassing, intimidating, or otherwise may tend to produce fear;
4. Profane, obscene, pornographic, indecent, or patently offensive to the average user;
5. Disruptive to the office, undermining of the Band's or a supervisor's authority, or impairing of working relationships; and
6. Absolutely no political campaigning is allowed.

Per Capita News

The following list of citizens have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office for Per Capita payment distribution and 2009 Christmas checks. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band enrollment office to verify the address.

1499 Peter Cusi Gibbons-Ballew
3282 Daniel Sanderson
0083 John Dylan Watson
0406 Michael Lynn Hewitt
0433 Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
0434 Thomas Charles Abercrombie
0857 Peter John Ramirez
1283 Jodi Lynn Burfield
1445 Michael David Bush
1446 Bobby Marcus Haynes
1506 Michaela Lynne Canard
2795 Edward F Cushway
2805 Isabel Marie Campos

The following list of citizens have not contacted the enrollment office to verify their valid addresses to receive their 2009 Christmas checks.

BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
RUBY TUESDAY BALEY
MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
NICHOLAS RAY BENNETT
FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
IAN THOMAS CURREY
PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

From the Tribal Chairman

I had the privilege of joining tribal leaders, federal officials, tribal and human rights advocates, and tribal law enforcement officers last month for a ceremony at the White House to witness President Barak Obama sign into law the Tribal Law and Order Act. The President signed into law this historic legislation that will enhance tribal law enforcement and the coordination of enforcement with United States government. This act reaffirms President Obama's and the United States government's federal trust responsibility to work with tribal nations to strengthen our governments, our people and our communities. The intent is that we will use the tools in the Tribal Law and Order Act to crack down on crime and make our communities safer.

Currently, Indian reservations nationwide face violent crime rates more than 2.5 times the national rate. Some reservations face more than 20 times the national rate of violence. More than 1 in 3 American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped in their lifetimes, and 2 in 5 will face domestic or partner violence. The Department of Justice has also found that at least 86 per cent of rape and sexual assault perpetrators are non-Indian.

The Tribal Law and Order Act takes a comprehensive approach to address these shortfalls by establishing accountability measures for federal agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting reservation crime, and by providing tribes with additional tools to combat crime locally. The Act provides law enforcement officials and tribes increased evidence sharing and federal declination data recording, access to national criminal history records, improved tribal court sentencing authority, and enables deputization of either federal or tribal agents as the situation requires.



At the ceremony, Mr. Obama said that all people, whether they live in our biggest cities or our most remote reservations, have the right to feel safe in their own communities, and to raise their children in peace, and enjoy the fullest protection of the law. He reminded us that he campaigned on this issue, and that during a tribal conference last year, he pledged his administration's fullest support for this bill. We are glad he made good on his word.

On August 13 council member Steve Winchester and I were able to meet with Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels. While this meeting was informal, it was historic in the sense that leaders of these two sovereign governments had not previously met. The meeting took place at the Fair Oaks Dairy just off I-65 north of Rensselaer at a stop on the governor's annual charity motorcycle ride with more than 400 other bikers through Indiana. Steve and I were able to speak privately with the governor and present him with the book *Queen of the Woods*. The governor took a quick look at the book and noticed there was native language used, and he made the comment that he would have to learn Algonquin to completely read the book. This struck a positive note with Steve that Governor Daniels understood the root of our language. He also mentioned that he understood we are the only federally recognized tribe in the state. Governor Daniels was very receptive and after we mentioned some of the services we provide our citizens who live in Indiana, and that we were looking forward to developing a working relationship with his administration, he responded, "We're friends now, bring me some projects." We now have an open invitation to contact the governor when the need arises.



I think we will soon have our first appointments by the governor and I'm now very comfortable that we have developed our relationship in Indiana to the point that our calls will be answered. I wish to thank our lobbying team, John Clark, who facilitated the meeting, and Noel LaPorte and Howard Edelson, for their work to make this happen, and tribal council for their support. Unfortunately the photos that were taken weren't of a quality that could be reproduced for inclusion in the newsletter.

In closing, I hope you all will join us to remember another White House ceremony that took place, this one on September 21, 1994. Our Reaffirmation Day celebration will be Saturday, September 18. Although we've always been a sovereign community, we recognize this each year at this time to commemorate when the U.S. government reaffirmed this fact for itself. Back in 1994 President Clinton made all the years of effort by hundreds of our people who fought for our acknowledgment worthwhile as he signed into law our federal recognition act. Please join us, it's sure to be a great event.

As always, my phone is on and my door is open. If you are in the area, please stop in and say hi.

Matt

Tribal Council **September** Calendar of Events

6 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
7 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
11 Tribal Council Citizen Meeting, 10 a.m. Lodge
13 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
14 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
20 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
21 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
27 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
28 Gaming Authority, 1 p.m., Four Winds
30 Tribal Council Special Session, 6 p.m., Lodge (tentative)

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov or call 1-888-782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Family Welfare Commission Looking to Fill Open Positions

The Pokagon Band is seeking applications from Pokagon Band members interested in serving on the Pokagon Band Family Welfare Commission. There are currently three open seats on the five member Commission. In order to protect the best interests of our children, the Pokagon Band Tribal Council formed the Family Welfare Commission by adoption of the Family Welfare Commission Ordinance on November 6, 2001. The Commission was designed not only to protect the best interests of Pokagon Band children, but also to: Promote the stability and security of Pokagon Band families; Recommend to the judicial and administrative agencies involved, a course of action for the guidance and care of Pokagon Band children which most preserves the unity of the family; Recommend actions that will best serve the cultural, spiritual, emotional, mental and physical welfare of the child; Recommend a continuum of services for Pokagon Band children and their families with emphasis whenever possible on prevention, early intervention, and community based alternatives; Recognize and acknowledge the cultural traditions of the Pokagon Band for child-rearing and family preservation. The Commission meets approximately once each month at Elders Hall, depending on the needs of the Commission, and meets at additional times as may be needed to address other specific matters. Family Welfare Commission members typically spend several additional hours per month preparing for Commission meetings or engaged in other Commission activities. The Family Welfare Commission Ordinance is available at the following internet address: http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm.

Family Welfare Commissioners are compensated as independent contractors in the amount of $75 for attending each Family Welfare Commission meeting. In addition, Commission members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Family Welfare Commission business.

Qualifications of Commissioners

A. A Commissioner may not also be a member of Tribal Council.

B. An individual considered for appointment must be an enrolled Tribal member, at least 18 years of age, with knowledge and experience demonstrated through educational, occupational or volunteer activities in the following areas:

1. childhood education;
2. childhood development;
3. Pokagon Band or other tribal customs and traditions pertaining to child rearing;
4. governmental and private programs to assist children and families in need; and
5. individual and family dysfunction, the types, causes, and treatment.

C. Neither an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the Band or of the federal government, or a state or local government, who is involved with or possibly involved with the delivery of services relating to child welfare matters within the scope of the Commission duties and authority may be appointed or serve as a Commissioner.

D. Immediate family members, as defined in the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code, of any family may not serve simultaneously on the Commission.

Requirements for Appointment to the Commission

A. Commissioners must sign and abide by a statement acknowledging the standards of confidentiality required for serving as a Commissioner.

B. Commissioners must submit to and pass a background check conducted by the Tribal Police Department subject to such written guidelines or procedures as may be established by the Tribal Police Department. The background check serves the purpose of assisting the Tribal Council in determining whether a prospective Commissioner could pose any risk to the safety or welfare of a child or may otherwise be unsuitable for appointment to the Commission. The background check shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the Commissioner's criminal history, including any arrest record and history of investigation by State Systems for suspected child abuse or neglect. A background check shall be conducted prior to the appointment or re-appointment of every Commissioner.

C. Every Commissioner shall be of good character and reputation, shall not associate with dishonest or disreputable persons, and shall exhibit high moral standards at all times.

Appointment Process

Appointments to the Family Welfare Commission are made by the Tribal Council. Each Commissioner shall serve a term of three (3) years.

How to Apply

Contact the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777 to obtain an application. Please submit a completed application to:
Mark Pompey, Director
Pokagon Band Department of Social Services
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Questions concerning the Family Welfare Commission may be directed to the Director of Social Services, Mark Pompey, at 800-517-0777 or mark.pompey@PokagonBand-NSN.gov.
Note: Posting to be removed by November 2010.

Ethics Requirements

As Public Officials, Family Welfare Commissioners are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained from the Band's website at http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm or by contacting Mark Pompey at the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik ❖ Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Tribal Council Directory

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Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary
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Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-6882

Social Services
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-4295

Health Services /
Behavioral Health
57392 M 51 South
(269) 782-4141 /
Toll Free (888) 440-1234
FAX (269) 782 - 8797

Natural Resources
32142 Edwards St.
(269) 782-9602 Phone
(269) 783-0452 Fax

Education and Training
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-0887/
FAX (269) 782-0985

Finance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-1028

Enrollment
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-1763 /
FAX (269) 782-1964

Commodities
(269) 782-3372 /
Toll Free (888) 281-1111
FAX (269)782-7814

Head Start
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0026/
(866)-250-6573
FAX (269) 782-9795

South Bend Area Office
310 W. Mc Kinley Ave. Suite 300
Mishawaka, IN. 46545
(574)-255-2368 /
Toll Free (800) 737-9223
FAX (574) 255-2974

Housing
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0443 /
FAX (269) 783-0452

Tribal Court
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0505 /
FAX (269) 783-0519

Tribal Police
58155 M-51 South
(269) 782-2232 /
Toll Free (866-399-0161)
FAX (269) 782-7988

Election
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-9475 /
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Human Resources/Compliance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998

Pokagon Band Elder's Lunch Menu

PLEASE CALL THE DAY BEFORE if you are not a regular attendee for meals
MEALS SUBJECT TO CHANGE 269-782-0765 or 800-859-2717 Meal Service Begins @ 12:00 Noon

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Note: milk, tea, coffee, water, and Crystal Light Beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, pickles, and onions served with sandwiches. Bread/ Rolls and butter are also included.		1 Beef Roast Potatoes Carrots Spinach Salad Fruit/ Roll Dutch Apple Pie	2 Business Grilled Pork Chop Baked Potato Green Bean Garden Salad Applesauce/ Roll/ Cake	3 Salmon Patties Wild Rice Butternut Squash Coleslaw Roll
6 **Closed Labor Day**	7 Chili Dogs W/ Bun Relish Tray Squash Salad Peaches	8 Buffalo Tacos W/ Beans, lettuce, onion, tomato, and cheese Flour tortilla or hard shell Strawberries and Raspberries	9 Sausage and Sauerkraut Mashed Potatoes Carrots Lime Jell-O W/ Pears Cornbread	10 Beef or Veggie Burger Relish Tray Baked Chips Veggie Kabobs Oatmeal Raisin Cookie
13 Language Roasted Garlic Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Veggie Tray Yogurt W/ Fruit	14 Ham Sweet Potato Succotash Garden Salad Lemon Meringue Pie/ Roll	15 Chicken, Broccoli, Rice, and Cheese Casserole Cucumber Salad Melon Tray Cornbread	16 Social Ground Beef Spaghetti Garden Salad Green Beans Garlic Bread Cottage Cheese & Peaches Ice Cream	17 Fish Square on a Bun Baked Beans Coleslaw Fruit Salad
20 Language Buffalo Stuffed Cabbage Mashed Potatoes Peas and Onions Cucumber Salad Peanut Butter Cookie/ Roll	21 **Closed Reaffirmation Day**	22 Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes Wax Beans Garden Salad Blueberry Pie/ Roll	23 Turkey Mashed Potatoes Brussels Sprouts Tomato Salad Strawberry Angel Food Cake	24 Tortilla Crusted Tilapia Rice Corn on the Cob Garden Salad Brownie
27 Language Pork Roast Red Potatoes Mixed Veggies Garden Salad/ Beets Applesauce/ Roll	28 BBQ Chicken Italian Pasta Salad Collard Greens Fruit Salad Roll	29 Ham and Bean Soup Tomato Salad Yogurt W/ Fruit Cornbread	30	

Tribal Citizens' Spouses May Apply for Temporary Staffing Pool

The Pokagon Band temporary pool will accept applications from tribal citizens and their spouses. Native American preference still applies, so the spouses will be considered if a Pokagon Band citizen is unavailable for the position. Pay for temporary positions is $8.50 per hour.

Tribal citizens interested in assisting with filling temporary vacancies on an "on-call" basis are encouraged to call Lori Harris at (269) 782-8998 or 800-517-0777. Employment applications are available at the Pokagon Band administration office at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac.

Applicants must pass the following background checks: criminal background, a motor vehicle report, work history, references, tribal membership (or spouse of enrolled tribal citizen) and DSH clearance (if applicable).

You must submit to and pass a drug and alcohol test. Temporary personnel will be subject to applicable rules of the Pokagon Band Personnel Policy Handbook.

This is an excellent opportunity to occasionally supplement income and gain experience while aiding the government in continuing smooth delivery of services. Call for an appointment today.

Tobacco Sales

Cigarettes are sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We sell Basic, Marlboro, and Newport brands and a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston. Sales are handled by the receptionist Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. You must be 18 years old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. Maximum of five cartons per month per tribal citizen**.** Credit cards accepted.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Administrative Office
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

October 2010

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Casino Expansion Approved for Hartford

Facility To Be Called Four Winds North

On September 8 the Hartford Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously to support the building of a new Pokagon Band casino in its jurisdiction, on 297 acres of tribal land located about 2.5 miles west of the city of Hartford on Red Arrow Highway.

The vote was the latest development in the project, which began officially when the Pokagon Gaming Authority voted July 27 to approve moving forward on expanding its gaming operations. The tribe's 2008 gaming compact with the state of Michigan requires that the unit of local government where a new casino would be built sign-off on the project. The township board meeting followed a period of public commentary that turned up little opposition from local residents. According to media reports, the majority of Hartford residents are in favor of the jobs and economic benefits that the casino could bring.

To be called Four Winds North, the casino would employ 250 to 300 people and tentatively could open sometime in late 2011 or spring 2012. The architecture will resemble that of the Four Winds in New Buffalo but on a smaller scale, and the casino will have 500 slot machines, nine gaming tables and a 100-seat casual restaurant.

The tribe now needs to consult with city officials about running sewer and water lines to the casino.

"We were glad we could do this," said Township Supervisor Ron Sefcik of the board giving the tribe a thumb's up for the project. "I think this is going to be good for the township and the area."



An architectural rendering shows the exterior of Four Winds North.

Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow Wow Activities Draw Many Participants



Skylar Ballew shows off her regalia during a grand entry.

The weekend of the 25th annual Kee Bon Mein Kaa Pow Wow was filled with cool weather but lots of activity. Friday morning forty participants gathered near the lake at the Gage Street property for a sunrise ceremony. Twenty walkers—nearly doubling the number from 2008—completed the 13-mile Women's Water Walk from there to Rodgers Lake, honoring and praying for the water of the Pokagon Band's homelands (see related story, page 2).

On Saturday and Sunday, Kee Boon Mein Kaa featured 32 vendors, nine food vendors, ten drums, 200 dancers, and dozens of activities. Many more Pokagon Band citizens participated as vendors than ever before. Pow wow attendees enjoyed such special activities as making black ash baskets, copper bowls, corn husk dolls, women's shawls, and beadwork, plus lacrosse games, property tours, and Pokagon history lectures. Of particular interest were the Ogitchedaw Veterans Society and the Four Winds Tribal Development Program information tables. The Ogitchedaw Veterans Society

Pow Wow, continued

staffed a recruitment table and spoke to Pokagon veterans about the role modern-day warriors play in serving the tribe. The Four Winds TDP representatives spoke with citizens regarding career opportunities at the casino.

The Pow Wow continues to grow and attract participants from around the Great Lakes area and across Michiana. Pow Wow committee members even met a German couple who incorporated the Pow Wow into their family vacation in the U.S.

The Pow Wow Committee is grateful to all Pokagon citizens and staff who supported the event. The committee is especially grateful to Tribal Council for their support, to



Head Junior Dancer Nicolas Morsaw

Majel DeMarsh and Cleora Morseau for their efforts with the Women's Water Walk, to the Education Department for coordinating Friday evening activities and the gifting of Pendleton blankets to college graduates, to John Winchester for keeping the Ishkode (sacred fire), to the Pokagon Maintenance Department for keeping our Pow Wow and campgrounds immaculate, to Tribal Police, IHS, and the Indian Lakes Fire Department for handling all emergencies.

Women's Water Walk Participants Honor, Pray for Pokagon Land Water

By Majel DeMarsh

Creator blessed us with a breath-taking morning and a beautiful day for the Third Annual Women's Water Walk on Friday, September 3. Our morning started with Andy and Mike Jackson rowing about our lake at Gage Street property, feasting the Water Spirits as instructed by Potawatomi Elder Jim Thunder, and then gathering the water from the mokjewen (bubbling springs) to bless us and be carried by our women to our Rodgers Lake property. Cleora Morseau conducted a sunrise and pipe ceremony, which touched all our hearts and gave us strength for the journey. The women also conducted water ceremony to start our walk in a good way.

The largest number of attendees in three years showed up for this ceremony, and we must give a chi-migwetch to veterans Anthony Foerster, Butch Starrett and Jerry Campbell for bringing the Eagle Staff and all those warrior spirits who walked with us and gave us the medicine to make it through the whole day. Wewene to the Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow Wow Committee for all your support and the beautiful banner. A special migwetch goes to Mike Jackson, who prepared a fantastic breakfast and served us before we all started our journey. And a big thank you goes to Faye Magnuson for her breakfast contribution also.



Elder Majel DeMarsh, right, hands Andy Jackson, left, the water to carry in a copper bowl on the journey to Rodgers Lake.

A Tribal Police car driven by Officer Jim Sumners led the caravan and Officer Abe Hohnke accompanied us on his bike the entire trip, keeping us together and relaying messages among the group as we walked. Dowagiac Police Chief Tom Atkinson participated for the third year and volunteered to bring up the rear of our caravan in his Dowagiac police car. Petey Boehm drove the Elders' van to give rest to weary walkers when needed. Becky Price and Liz Leffler from Pokagon Health Services served as our medical team for the walk, but also drove in the caravan and offered refreshment, fruit, and nice gifts to all our walkers at the end of the trip.

Water walkers and the Eagle Staff make their way on their journey.



We would also like to thank the Dowagiac Fire Department for allowing us respite at their new facility at our journey's half way point. Thirteen miles later when we all arrived at Rodgers Lake to conduct the closing ceremony, we were greeted by many campers who were already set up for the weekend festivities of Kee Boon Mein Kaa.

Another chi-migwetch must go to Julie Farver and Susan Laursen for setting up and serving us with a much needed luncheon feast after our walk.

A heartfelt wewene goes out to each of our walkers: Chinodin Atkinson and Gage Warren, our hand drummers, who sang and encouraged us along the way; Dan Brant, Sylvia Hall and Danielle Rapp for completing the entire walk; Penny Brant, Kim Cushway-Zepeda, Andy Jackson and Capt. Rachel Sadowski for completing the walk for two years in a row. Our other walkers included Judy Augusta, Gladys Bybee, Billie Dempsey, Kathy Grant, Rusty Green, Rob Helsel, Peggy McNew, Micki Magnuson, Autumn Mollett, nine year-old Grant Phillips, Margaret Rapp, Jason Wesaw and four year-old Kadyn Wesaw. Migwetch to Andy Jackson for doing all the legwork I can no longer do for this great event in our community. And finally, migwetch to our Tribal Council for their support and encouragement through the year.

Pokégnek Yajdanawa

Pokégnek Yajdanawa is the monthly voice of Pokégnek Bodéwadmik, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. Citizens are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry and announcements for publication in *Pokegnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions are subject to the guidelines printed on page 11 of this issue.

The deadline for citizen submissions for the newsletter is always the 14th of the month. Please send items for publication to:

Pokégnek Yajdanawa
Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn. gov

Influenza Vaccinations Available at Pokagon Health Services Clinic

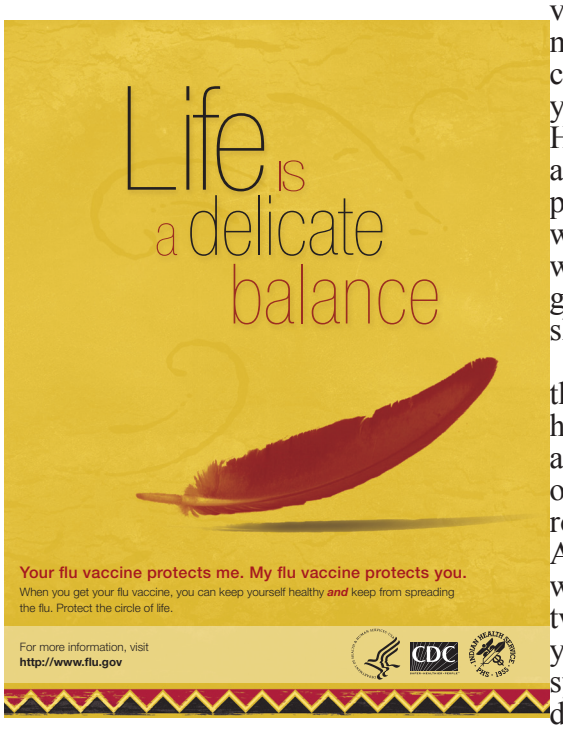
By Shelly Smith, PharmD
Pokagon Band Pharmacist

Flu season is quickly coming upon us. Remember influenza is not the stomach flu, as many people confuse it with symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Influenza or the "flu" is a respiratory infection with symptoms like coughing, sneezing, headache, chills, muscle aches, nasal drainage and sore throat (often from drainage). Some people may actually run a fever but that is not always the case. Children can experience diarrhea or even seizures, depending on how ill they become.

Anyone can get influenza, but rates of infection are the highest in children. Infants, the elderly, pregnant women and people with such health conditions as heart, lung, kidney disease or diabetes with weakened immune systems can get much sicker. Each year thousands of people die from seasonal influenza and even more need hospitalization.

By getting vaccinated for seasonal influenza, you can protect yourself and those people who may be at risk, especially our children and elders. Children less than 6 months old cannot receive the vaccine and thus will not be protected. If you have or take care of young children, especially young babies, it is vital that you get vaccinated to protect them. To protect elders and those with weakened immune systems, please consider getting your influenza vaccine.

The influenza shot is a killed, or inactivated, vaccine. You *cannot* get the flu from the influenza shot. You could, however, experience side effects that are the same for any vaccination people receive, including muscles aches or fever. This is the body's normal response to building immunity. It is not the flu, but mild side effects. There is another method of vaccination that is sprayed into the nostrils. This is a live, or weakened, virus strain. This can cause illness not only to the person who gets it, but you could pass it on to others, like children or elderly that you may be around. The clinic will not provide the nasal spray version, due to the potential for causing illness in these populations.



Influenza viruses always change, so an annual vaccination is required to keep adequate protection. Every year scientists try to match the protection in the vaccine to those most likely to cause flu that year. Last year H1N1 became an unexpected pandemic strain, which is why it was needed to get a separate shot for that.

This year the vaccine will have the H1N1 along with two other strains all rolled into one. After the shot, it will take up to two weeks for your immune system to develop enough protection. For young, healthy individuals the protection can last as long as 6 months but will begin to fade out near the end of the season. But the elderly and those with weakened immune systems likely will not have protection that lasts as long, closer to 4 months. Patients who have never received an influenza vaccine will need to have a two shot series to properly kick their immunity into gear.

To provide the maximum protection, the clinic would like to begin administering influenza vaccinations beginning in October. If you have a scheduled health visit, the clinic will be offering you the influenza and any other vaccines you may qualify for.

Pokagon Health Services will plan on administering Influenza immunizations by **appointment only** on various days during the month of October and November until supplies are gone. Please call in advance and schedule an appointment for a quick stop to get your shot. We will plan on visits being less than fifteen minutes. Wednesdays and Fridays will be the days dedicated to influenza vaccination. The dates to make your appointment for your influenza vaccine are as follows:
Friday, October 8
Wednesday, October 20
Wednesday, October 13
Friday, October 22
Friday, October 15
Wednesday, October 27

Please plan on getting your vaccination at Pokagon Health Services as Contract Health Services will not cover the costs for influenza vaccination while the clinic has adequate supply.

Know Your Risk: Breast Cancer Screenings Offered at Heatlh Clinic

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The biggest challenge in the fight against breast cancer is being aware of the signs and symptoms, and catching it early. If you are age 50 or over, you should be getting a mammogram every one to two years, depending on your primary care provider's recommendation. If you are at high risk, the American Cancer Society recommends starting mammogram screening at age 40. Pap smears are recommended after age 21 every three years for low risk women. Be aware that breast cancer can also develop in men.

Commemorate National Breast Cancer Awareness Month by making an appointment at our clinic with Dr. Sherburn or nurse practitioner Shirley Grassflower for a breast exam, mammogram screening and pelvic exam.



Contact the clinic and ask our nurses for more information on breast cancer screening, signs and symptoms. Call the Pokagon Band Health Services Department today at 1-888-440-1234 or 782-4141 to make an appointment to learn more about breast cancer awareness.

The Pokagon Band Department of Health Services will now accept a copy of a citizen's tribal identification card and a Michigan/Indiana license or a copy of a Michigan/Indiana picture identification card as the necessary proof of identification for department needs.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Understand the Impact of Family Violence

By Patricia Holbrook LMFT, CAAC, Behavioral Health Program

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender. The prevalence of violence against women is the most studied and associated to the definition of domestic violence. However, violence within the home/family/community crosses all genders and age, impacting the very fabric of our inherited propensity to protect and preserve our family.

Within Indian Country it is the family who has suffered the most from the historical violence against our women, children, and men. The impact of oppressed trauma can and will manifest in violent behaviors not indigenous to our natures but learned from our ancestors who suffered from encampment, starvation, humiliation, boarding schools, forced assimilation, and relocation. The past is always very close to us in our healing journey.



Domestic violence can be defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner, a child, an elder, or another family member. Abuse is physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological: actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, injure or wound someone.

It is difficult to estimate the impact of domestic/family violence because it is rarely reported, especially when it is the male member of the family who is the victim of violence in the family. When children are involved the impact is twofold for them, because commonly when the violence becomes public it is because the law has been called in, and the children not only carry with them the trauma of witnessing the violence, but then the trauma of being removed from their family. Most often the women will suffer the impact of legal investigation to regain custody of her children, placing her in the difficult situation of survival without support of a male partner, or having her children where economic trauma impacts her choices. Most commonly in Indian Country, because of deep seated mistrust of state and federal agencies, there is a "don't tell" pact between families and community, burying the violence even deeper into the family system where it becomes a negative behavior sanctioned by the silence.

The only resolution to make a difference within the community is to bring the violence to light, but just as important is support by the family, community, tribal law, and service providers to develop a system where our families are supported and guided to change the behaviors that perpetuate violence.

To develop a support system will take the entire community to bring awareness to the impact of family violence, as well as becoming aware of the symptoms that perpetuate violence such as addictions, economic deficiency, loss of respect for our women, homelessness, and lack of support systems. Developing Native-specific programs that intervene in men's use of violence must adapt an educational approach that centers on the belief that violence is learned behavior evolving from a history of oppression and can be un-learned. Much of the work in men's groups working with Native men need to emphasize the relationships within family and community by incorporating teachings of respect, acknowledging and honoring the roles of men and women and restoring natural ways of living.

White Bison, a Native American wellbriety non-profit, has developed a training program for men and women that addresses the traditional ways of family life and philosophies. The program is called "Fathers of Tradition" and "Mothers of Tradition." White Bison also has programs for adolescents, encouraging traditional beliefs and ways of life to assist in stopping the trauma and violence among Native youth and their families. Behavioral Health is currently spearheading a community involvement of a few members who are learning to walk the path of the Red Road to train in these programs and bring that training to the rest of the community. This project is gradually gaining strength and funding from the Department of Health Services to bring healing to our community by community members.

When asked to write an article for domestic violence awareness month, my attention went to the question of how does domestic violence impact the Pokagon Band community. Could I glean statistics from the behavioral health program? How many clients who have the courage to seek assistance with their pain and family grief have histories of domestic violence in their immediate life situations or in the history of their family? The answer tears at my heart, because I must say, almost all our citizens have family/domestic violence in the histories of their life. This is testimony that awareness will not be enough. There are few resources available within our area, few shelters, and few funds to support an alliance of action. This will be a wakeup call to the trauma of our past and the impact of our violent social structures all over the world. Indigenous people did not create the impact now present. It took many years for us to internalize the trauma, but with our determination and strength as a nation we can come together, tell the stories, and heal the pain with strong voices and a goal to heal our families, especially the women. But as important is giving our men back their roles as protectors of our tribes.

A Pokagon citizen expressed her grief about domestic violence this way when she became aware of the impact it has on one's life: "I wanted to cry because this really hits home. Made me realize that I have been abused both mentally and physically

continued on page 6

You may be in an emotionally abusive relationship if your partner:
Calls you names, insults you or continually criticizes you.
Does not trust you and acts jealous or possessive.
Tries to isolate you from family or friends.
Monitors where you go, whom you call and whom you spend time with.
Does not want you to work.
Controls finances or refuses to share money.
Punishes you by withholding affection.
Expects you to ask permission.
Threatens to hurt you, the children, your family or your pets.
Humiliates you in any way.

You may be in a physically abusive relationship if your partner has ever:
Damaged property when angry.
Pushed, slapped, bitten, kicked or choked you.
Abandoned you in a dangerous or unfamiliar place.
Scared you by driving recklessly.
Used a weapon to threaten or hurt you.
Forced you to leave your home.
Trapped you in your home or kept you from leaving.
Prevented you from calling police or seeking medical attention.
Hurt your children.
Used physical force in sexual situations.

You may be in a sexually abusive relationship if your partner:
Views women as objects and believes in rigid gender roles.
Accuses you of cheating or is often jealous of your outside relationships.
Wants you to dress in a sexual way.
Insults you in sexual ways or calls you sexual names.
Has ever forced or manipulated you into to having sex or performing sexual acts.
Held you down during sex.
Demanded sex when you were sick, tired or after beating you.
Hurt you with weapons or objects during sex.
Involved other people in sexual activities with you.
Ignored your feelings regarding sex.

Pokagon Band Citizen Runs for Colorado State Legislature

March 16, 2010 was a life-changing day for Jake Williams. Williams, a Pokagon Band citizen who lives in Lafayette, Colorado, spent the day garnering support in the Democratic party caucus for his bid to win nomination to the state legislature's 12th district. And then, a few hours after he won the informal straw poll with 53 percent of the vote, his wife Kate Tallman went into labor. The next day, the couple's first child, Rylee, was born.

"I've definitely had my hands full," said the 32 year-old Williams, who over the next several months juggled being a new father and a candidate for Colorado's general assembly. By the time the official primary rolled around August 10, Williams said he had been campaigning hard for 16 months, working against the political establishment in his district. He was running against Matt Jones, a former state representative who had the endorsement of the incumbent. Because the 12th district northwest of Denver is heavily Democratic, a primary victory for Williams would likely have lead to his representing that constituency in the Capitol.

In the end, though, the election didn't turn out as he'd hoped. Williams lost by a mere 665 votes.

"I came out with more friends and knowledge than I ever imagined," he said.

Though Williams graduated from high school in Spring Lake, Michigan, and later from the University of Michigan, he and his family (his brother is the Pokagon Band's associate general counsel Ed Williams) spent much of his childhood in Colorado. He is a descendent of the Morsaw, O'Keefe and Quigno families.



Jake Williams with his wife Kate Tallman and their daughter, Rylee.

After earning a master's degree at the London School of Economics, he went on to work for the political action organization MoveOn.org during the presidential election of 2004 and chose to work in Colorado. He met Tallman during the campaign, and the couple decided to make their home there. Later Williams became an organizer for the Service Employees International Union. He now is with the Western Conservation Foundation, working to fund efforts to improve federal conservation policy in such areas as clean energy and air and water quality.

Williams says he finally decided to become a candidate himself because it seemed Colorado was at a critical budget crossroad. "If we didn't change course soon, we had a lot to lose."

The candidate was endorsed by ten state legislators, including the Colorado Senate's only American Indian, Sen. Suzanne Williams, and the Indigenous Democratic Network (INDN). According to INDN, he "raised the bar in his campaigning, by running the most extensive field campaign of any Colorado House candidate."

Had he won, Williams would have been the only American Indian in Colorado's State House of Representatives.

Despite his strong showing, he doesn't plan to throw his hat back into the political ring anytime soon. Right now he's focusing on spending time with his family. Yet service is something central to Williams' philosophy, especially as a Native American.

"It's more important than ever that American Indians participate in community service," he said. "And even though this didn't turn out as hoped, I'm happy to provide a model for that."

Men's Health Fair Scheduled for October 7

Both the new and the familiar are sure to get your attention at the 15th Annual Men's Health Fair, put on by the Department of Health Services. This awareness opportunity for men age 18 and older will be October 7 from 3 to 7 p.m. in the health services buildings at 57392 South M-51, Dowagiac.

This event features sessions on health topics spotlighting hearing and vision screening, back safety and foot care, and checks for height, weight, body mass index (BMI), body composition scans, and blood pressure. Staff will also offer immunizations and flu shots. Please call and schedule today if you want a full physical and or blood lab tests with Dr. Sherburn or Grassflower before the health fair.

A light supper meal and goodie bags will be offered, and you'll have the opportunity to meet many of our new staff. Plus take advantage of massages, manicures, and haircuts. A grand prize raffle drawing will take place during the last half hour with the tickets you receive when you participate in the various health screenings. If you have any questions, please call the clinic at 888-440-1234 and ask to speak with Susan at extension 343.

College Grads Honored at Pow Wow

The Department of Education honors our Pokagon Band higher education graduates at the Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow Wow each year. The graduates are given Pendleton blankets embroidered with their name, year and university. We are honored to have the following citizens earning bachelors or advanced degrees from these institutions:

Gerald Morris, Doctor of Medicine, Indiana University
Alison Grigonis, J.D., UCLA Law School
Greg Morris, Masters, Andrews University
Abby Gephart, Masters, Andrews University
Alexis Wesaw, M.A., Georgia State University
Brian Gephart, Martin Luther College
Jessica Wesaw, Indiana University
Monica Topash, Western Michigan University
Jordan Wiggins, Western Michigan University
Renee Gaipa, Indiana University
Justin Quigno, Western Michigan University
Audrey Raich, Western Michigan University
Charles Reisdorf, University of Michigan
Shayla Rider, Arizona State University
Sheri Alexis, Grand Canyon University
Konstance Birks, University of Colorado

Health Services Moving to a Managed Care System

As mentioned in the last issue of Pokégnek Yajdanawa, on October 1 the Department of Health Services will begin a 120-day process of coming into compliance with Indian Health Services policy regarding Contract Health Service funding. To ensure proper use of CHS and clinic services, DOHS will transition all eligible Pokagon Band citizens to a managed care approach. The following article is reprinted from the Indian Health Services website, and details the lines between what health care services can and cannot be paid for with CHS money.

Contract Health Service funds are provided through congressional funding, and administered by the Indian Health Service. These funds pay for health services that are purchased from public or private medical or hospital facilities other than those IHS or tribal facilities, and are used to supplement and complement other health care resources available to eligible Pokagon Band citizens. The funds are used in circumstances where (1) no IHS or tribal direct care facility exists, (2) the IHS or tribal facility is incapable of providing required emergency and/or specialty care, (3) the IHS or tribal facility has an overflow of medical care workload, and (4) supplementation of alternate resources (i.e., Medicare, private insurance) is required to provide comprehensive care to eligible natives.

Because the Indian Health Service program does not fully fund the Pokagon Band, the CHS program must rely on specific regulations relating to eligibility, notification, residency, and a medical priority rating system. The CHS is designated as the payor of last resort, meaning that all other available alternate resources—including IHS facilities, Medicare A and B, state Medicaid, a state or other federal health program, or private insurance—must first be used before payment is expected. These mechanisms enhance the IHS to stretch the limited CHS dollars, and are designed to extend services to more citizens. This requires the CHS program to authorize care at restricted levels and results in a managed health care system.

While some treaties mention health care, the Indian Health Service is not an entitlement program, and therefore funding for CHS is not guaranteed by the Federal government. The Pokagon Band Health Clinic is considered a resource, and therefore, the CHS funds may not be expended for services reasonably accessible and available at the clinic. Therefore, Pokagon Band citizens are expected to access primary care services at the Band's medical clinic, which is the only route by which a citizen can access CHS program services.

Eligibility requirements for contract health services are in addition to meeting the requirements for direct care services at the Pokagon Band Health Clinic. An individual must meet the eligibility requirements as defined by Federal regulations, which means s/he must be an Indian living in the Contract Health Services Delivery Area with authorization of approval for payment. The delivery area for Pokagon Band citizens is the ten-county service area, including Berrien, Cass, Van Buren and Allegan counties in Southern Michigan, and LaPorte, Saint Joseph, Elkhart, Starke, Marshall and Kosciusko in Northern Indiana.

Tribal Member Labor Pool Created for Housing Contracts

The Department of Housing is creating a Tribal Citizen labor pool for the construction of the Community Center on Dailey Road in Dowagiac. If you have been on a previous list, please reapply.

The labor pool list will be available to the contractors who will be working on that project. We will amend the list at the beginning of future projects as they develop. Applying for the labor pool does not guarantee that a tribal member will be employed. When contractors look for additional people, they may require an interview and citizens will be chosen according to the needs of the contractor. For safety reasons, unskilled people cannot be placed into skilled positions. Ultimately the contractor is responsible, so we cannot require them to make any placements that they are not comfortable with. Contractors will be required to access the tribal labor pool prior to hiring from the general public.

In order to be placed in the labor pool, interested citizens must complete a general application. This application will be available at the housing office in the new administration building. The application will be asking for skill sets and job experience. Please bring that information with you when you come to fill out an application.

Any questions regarding the labor pool or application process can be directed to the Department of Housing at (269) 783-0443.

Domestice Violence, from page 4

all my life; sibling abuse continued into adulthood. These behaviors are pounded into you head at an early age and you continue to allow this because you don't know any better."

If you answered 'yes' to any question above, you may be in an abusive relationship; please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233), 1-800-787-3224 (TTY) or your local domestic violence center to talk with someone about it.

You may also call Pokagon Band Behavioral Health for assistance and support. We have skilled professionals with experience with family/domestic violence who will be available for counseling and intervention. Please contact our medical clinic if you experience physical violence for medical attention immediately. Confidentiality will be honored in any situation. The phone number is 269-782-4141 or 1-888-440-1234.

Pokagon Library Book Review

Conspiracy 365: January
By Gabrielle Lord



Reviewed by Sue Johnson, Education Associate

"31 December: I'm chased by a madman, who tells me my dad was murdered and that I will be too if I don't hide out until midnight, next December 31. 365 days…"

So begins the journey of a 15 year-old and his quest to discover answers to a riddle, what really happened to his father, and explain why two different criminal gangs are after him. Cal Ormond is a typical teenager until that December 31, when his whole life turns upside down. Throughout the next year, he will find out who he can trust, answers to his questions, and maybe, just maybe, reconnect with his family. Join him on his roller coaster, heart-stopping adventures and discover the secret to the Ormond Singularity. Find this book series and many more at your Pokagon Library, in the Department of Education.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik Ogitchedaw Society

- Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 at Elders Hall, 53237 Townhall Road, Dowagiac. All tribal veterans are welcome to participate in all events.
- Registration Forms are available for the Ogitchedaw Society. Upon completion and return of registration forms and proper documentation, you will receive a branch of service hat and an Ogitchedaw Shirt. To obtain a registration form please contact Butch Starrett, Veterans Committee Chairman, at:

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Administration Building
Attn. Butch Starrett
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Two Million Dollars in Federal Stimulus Funding Help Make New Community Center a Reality

Wednesday, October 6 Event Dedicates New Community Center Site

By Val Janowski

The Pokagon Band's long-awaited community center is under construction, thanks in large part to a $2 million dollar grant from the federal government's American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA), also referred to as stimulus funding. The $2 million dollars in stimulus funding was earmarked for American Indian tribes and awarded by HUD's Office of Native American Program on a competitive-basis. The project will cost $3.1 million and is also supported by funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) through its Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) program. Even though the recent referendum on the roads was not approved in July's tribal election, the road money will still be accessible, according to the BIA.

The 8,500 square feet building will be located south of the entrance to Pokégnek Édawat, the tribe's housing development on Dailey Road in Dowagiac, Michigan. It will provide tribal citizens with a central place to gather for meetings, social events and special occasions. In addition to tribal government meetings, the facility will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for community use. The facility will feature a large meeting room that will accommodate up to 150 people seated at round tables or up to 250 seated in long rows without tables. The center will also include office space, a large conference room divisible into two smaller spaces by an retractable accordion-type wall, a lounge area, kitchen and wall cases to hold cultural items. Outside there will be a large patio with a fire pit, and close to 100 parking spaces.

The space will embody the Band's mission statement to preserve Mother Earth by including a host of green features, including solar panels and a section of the roof that will support the growth of live native plants. This vegetated green roof will help insulate the building and reduce water runoff. Another feature is a geothermal heating and cooling system that will improve comfort and reduce both energy dependence and operating costs. The large meeting room with a southern orientation and glass walls will use passive solar to maximize daylight and manage heat gain. A 12 inch concrete floor in the main space will act as a heat sink that will help retain heat in the winter by absorbing radiant sunlight. Also planned is the use of porous pavers rather than asphalt in the parking lot to reduce stormwater runoff. The building and site will meet the U.S. Green Building Council's requirements for a Silver LEED rating. LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all areas that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, carbon dioxide emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impact.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi

Please join us to celebrate the growth and development of the Pokégnek Bodéwadmik.

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

9 a.m.
Administration Building Dedication
Rodgers Lake
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, Michigan

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Tours of New Homes
Pokégnek Édawat
Dowagiac, Michigan

10:30 a.m.
Community Center Site Blessing
Pokégnek Édawat

Lunch to follow at Tribal Lodge Pavilion, Rodgers Lake

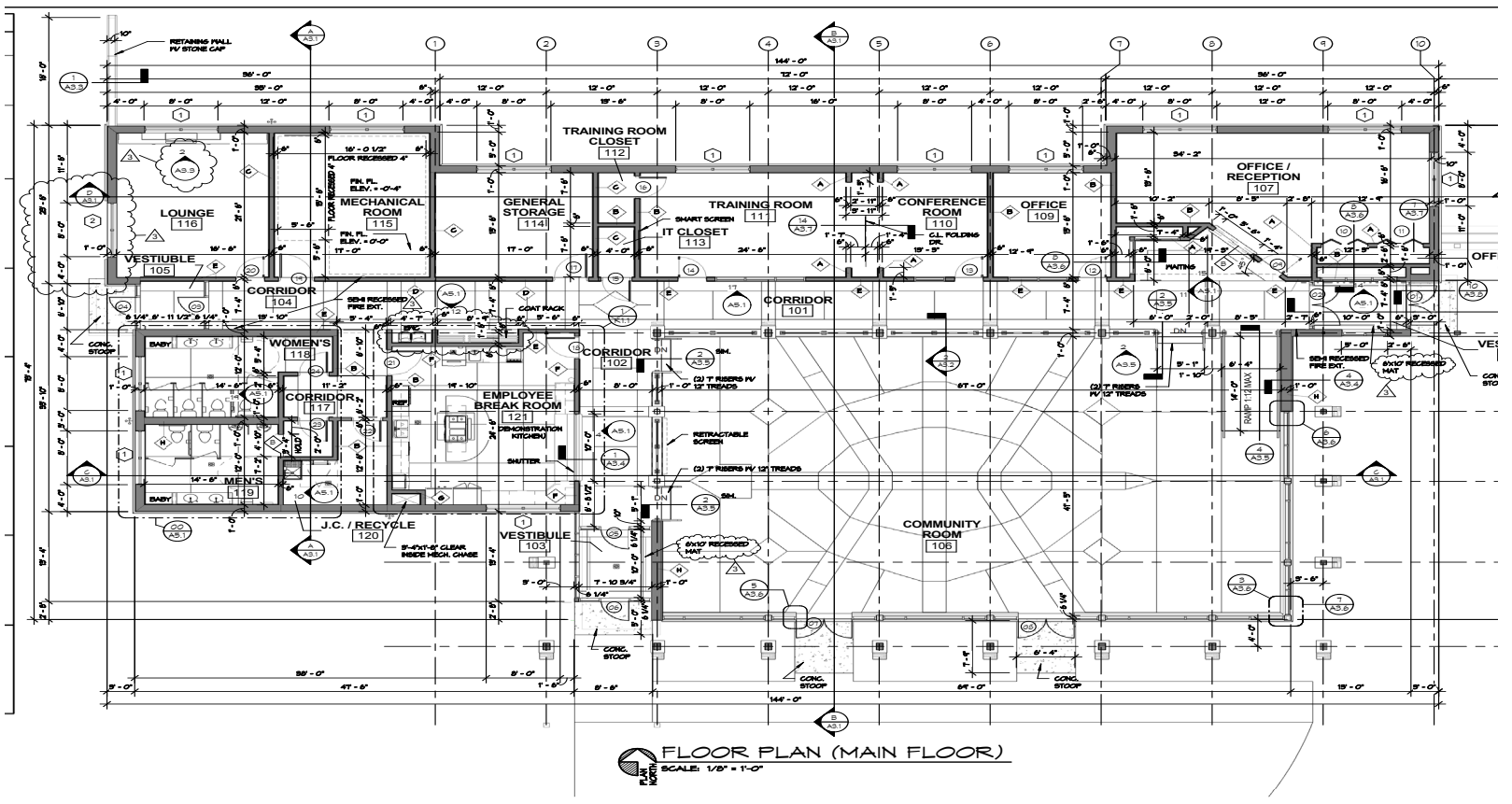
RSVP to Melissa Rodriguez
(269) 462-4203
Melissa.Rodriguez@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

Construction activities to date include the following:

- some trees at the site were removed and will be milled and reused for the trim
- grading at the site has started, including the extension of Potawatomi Trail
- both the foundation and cedar timber framed structure are being fabricated

Access will be available from both Dailey Road and Potawatomi Trail, the main road into Pokégnek Édawat, the tribe's housing development. The completion date is planned for July 2011.

The interior floor plan of the Community Center, below.



Minors Trust Info

To help keep you informed of ongoing market and economic events and our related strategies, our investment management professionals host a series of Investment Market Update calls. Please take time (approximately 30-40 minutes) to listen to these calls, you will find the information shared to be of value. While representatives cannot take questions during the calls, they will work to address topics sent prior to each call. If you have a specific question or topic you would like to have addressed, please contact the U.S. Bank Private Client Reserve and they will pass along the information to the speakers. In addition, if you are unavailable to listen to the live calls, you will be able to access a recorded replay. Details are provided below.

Next 2010 Call Date

Wednesday, October 20th

Call Time

11:00 a.m. (central) / 12:00 p.m. (eastern)

Phone Number: 888-790-4906

Participant password: U.S. Bank

Recorded Replay Phone Number: 866-351-2778

U.S. Bank Speakers:

Mark Jordahl – *President, Wealth Management Group*

Tim Leach – *Chief Investment Officer, Asset Management Group*

Plus, other key investment and economic experts

Questions? Please call (800) 863-3479, the US. Bank Private Client Reserve exclusive number for all Pokagon Citizens.

"That's What Indian Families Do"
Pokagon Foster Parent Cares for Native Children

Over the years, Sharon Winters has had lots of kids. Perhaps not in the traditional sense—she has one biological son, Sean Winters, now 40 years old—but she has cared for many children over the span of her sixty years. One of eight siblings born to her parents, Alice Alexis and Fabian Wesaw, Winters helped care for her sister through her sister's short life after she became deaf as an infant from a bout with the measles. Then, when another sister was having a difficult time, Winters stepped in to take care of that sibling's children.

"That's just what Indian families do," she said. "From as far back as I can remember, people in the community have stepped up to care for others when they needed it."

Sharon Winters story helps illustrate the great need for Pokagon foster parents. Many native children need safe places to stay, and according to Mark Pompey, director of social services for the Pokagon Band, it's important to keep native children within the community. As Winters said, the hope is that the children can stay in their culture, or in some cases, be reintroduced to it.

"We strive to get families back together," she said, stressing that the children she has cared for have always maintained a relationship with their biological parents if possible.

"The children have brought so much joy and knowledge to me," she said. "As old as I am, they have taught me something new every day. I'd like to encourage younger folks who have any room in their home and their hearts to consider fostering Pokagon Band children. We have lots to offer families who are in crisis, and we can help get their families back together."

Winters feels strongly that if the future of the Pokagon Band is to remain bright, then the next generation must be well cared for and taught.

"Kids in the Native American community can give back so much. They will be very instrumental in our future as a tribe."

If you think you may have room in your home or heart for Pokaon foster children, please contact the Department of Social Services at (269) 782-8998 to speak wiith Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, Indian Child Welfare Worker.

Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow Wow 2010 Contest Winners

Boys 5-11 years old
Traditional
1st: Chase Bain (Oneida, Menominee, Michigan)
2nd: Darian Wix (LTBB Odawa, Michigan)
3rd: Jason Muzzey Jr (LTTB Odawa, Michigan)

Grass
1st: Quincy Antoine-Jackson (Saginaw Chippewa, Michigan)
2nd: Ascension Harjo (Seminole,Mohawk,Kickapoo)Canada
3rd: Chinodin Atkinson (Ojibwe, Indiana)

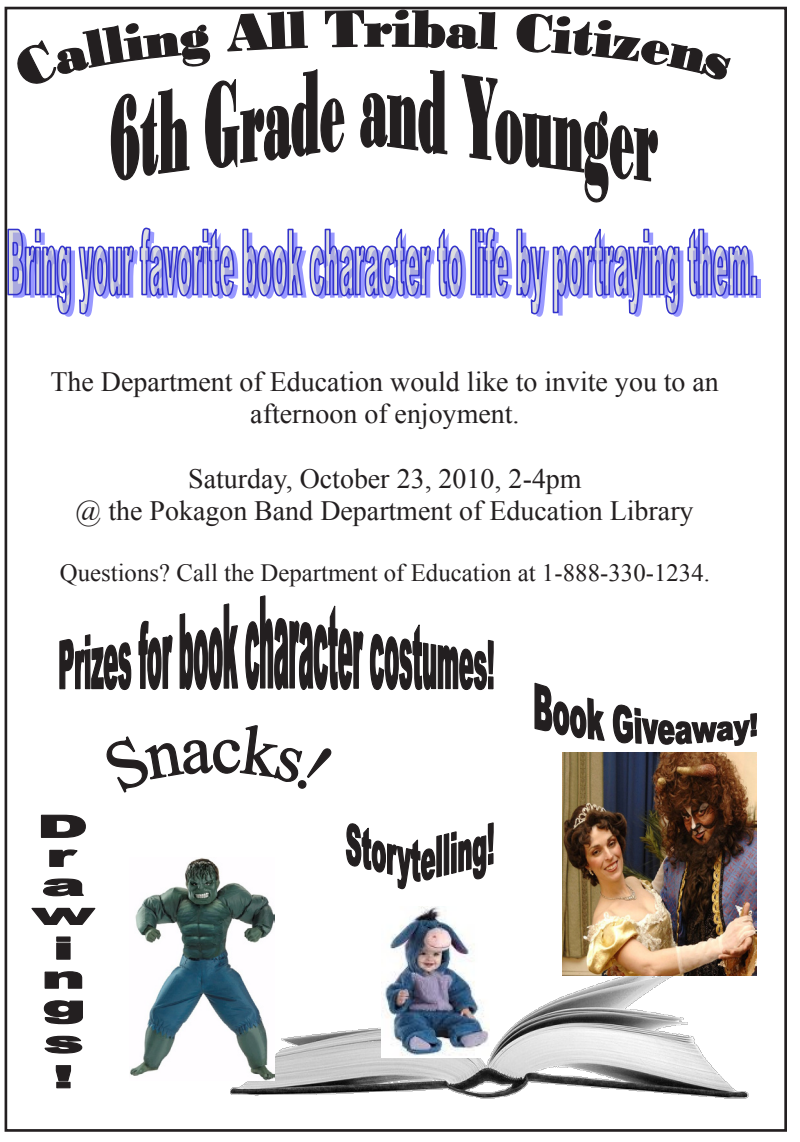
Fancy
1st: Giizhig Martell (Saginaw Chippewa, Michigan)
2nd: Gabe Jackson (Saginaw Chippewa, Michigan)
3rd: Derrek Collett (Pokagon, Michigan)

Teen Boys 12-17 years
Traditional
1st: Zach Antoine-Jackson (Saginaw Chippewa, Michigan)
2nd: Brandon Hinojosa (Ojibwe, Canada)

Grass
1st: Zackary Platero (Navajo, Michigan)
2nd: David Hinojosa (Ojibwe, Canada)

Fancy
1st: Calvin Ballew (Pokagon, Michigan)
2nd: Nodin Jackson, Saginaw Chippewa, Michigan)

continued on p. 10

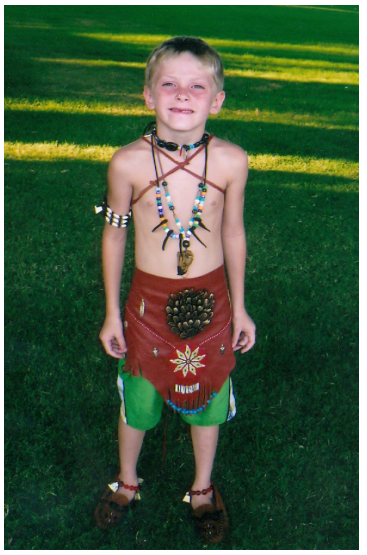


October Students of the Month

by Susan Doyle, Education Associate



Joshua H. Rader is a tenth grader at Shannon Forest Christian School in Greenville, SC. Joshua's parents are Lawrence "Dino" Rader, Jr. and Lisa Rader. His brother is Lawrence "Freddy" Rader, III. Joshua enjoys all types of food, including sushi. Joshua likes to hang out with his friends and play video games. He plays baseball, basketball, and soccer for his high school. However, he likes pitching the most. Given that he likes playing on his high school sports teams, his goal is to finish high school with good grades and go to college at Clemson University or the University of South Carolina to study accounting. Since Joshua is outside of the tribal area he tries to take advantage of the Summer Enrichment Program. When asked what makes you most proud to be Native American, Joshua answered, "I think I am a very special person to be a Native American. It is not something that many people can say about themselves. My grandfather was from Dowagiac and told me and my father several stories about our tribe. One day I hope to go to Michigan to find out more about my heritage."



George N. McMurtrie III is a first grader at Lockesburg Elementary School in Kirby, Arkansas. He is the son of George and Crystal McMurtrie and the grandson of George and Sarah Mcwhorter. He has a brother named Zack. He likes to dance at Pow Wows and he loves Indian fry bread. Someday he would like to be a Nascar driver. When George's granny tells him stories of who he is, that makes him proud to be a Native American.



Madeline White is an eighth grader at Dowagiac Middle School. Keith and Lori White are her parents, and Megan is her twin sister. She has been involved with Pokagon Band by attending summer camp, enrichment labs, and after school tutoring. Some of her favorite things are tacos, mac & cheese, chili, softball, volleyball, camping, swimming, hanging with friends, and the beach. Someday she would like to be a school teacher. She is proud to be Native American because of the Pow Wows, beading, and learning the language.



Megan White is entering the eighth grade at Dowagiac Middle School. She is the daughter of Keith and Lori White. She has a twin sister named Madeline. She has been involved with Pokagon Band by attending summer camp, enrichment labs, after school tutoring and also beading. Some of her favorite things are pizza, Raman noodles, grapes, tacos, texting, hanging out with friends, camping, softball, volleyball, swimming, bike rides, and going to the beach. Someday she would like to be a nurse. She is proud to be Native American because of the Pow Wows and beading.



Eva Ballew is a fifth grader at Raymond Elementary School in Franksville, Wisconsin. She is the daughter of Rick and Monica Ballew and the granddaughter of Jeff and Elizabeth Ballew, Francis Brazeau, and Delores McKenna. She has one sibling, Zada Ballew.

Some tribal and cultural activities that Eva participates in are: the Labor Day Pow Wow, the Elder's Scholarship Award, basket weaving, drum making, and beading. Eva's favorite things include: shrimp scampi, piano, creative writing, softball, volleyball, Remy 500 (a card game). Someday she would like to attend the University of Notre Dame and become a pediatrician. She is proud to be a Native American because she is native to this country and her ancestors cared for the land. She hopes she can follow their footsteps.



Samantha Jo Burns is entering the fifth grade at Pine Street Elementary School in Shelbyville, Michigan. She is the daughter of Jeff and Karen Burns and the granddaughter of the late Sam Wesaw. She has two siblings, Sydney and Summer.

She is involved with tribal activities by attending the Pow Wow. She enjoys chicken rice soup, ice cream, cheerleading, dancing, and playing Twister. Someday she would like to attend Michigan State and become an anesthesiologist. She is proud to be Native American because of the Pow Wows, the dancing, and the food.

Head Start School Year Underway

Enrollment is currently full, however we are still accepting applications for the waiting list. Children must be three years of age by December 1, 2010 to be eligible for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested, please contact the office and we will mail you a pre-application. Applications must be returned with proof of all household income, proof of TANF Assistance (if applicable) and a copy of the Tribal ID to be considered for enrollment. Please contact Sarah Hyatt at the center at (269) 783-0026 or (866) 250-6573 with any questions about enrollment for the upcoming year or to have a pre-application mailed to you. We will begin accepting applications in January for the 2011-2012 school year.

The program is always looking for volunteers. Anyone can be a volunteer; you do not have to have a relative attending the program. Ways to volunteer can include: spending time at the center, storytelling, craft activities, chaperoning field trips, riding on the bus, or helping with language and culture. This is a great way for the fathers, step-fathers, grandfathers, uncles, big brothers and male cousins to get together and spend time with the children. If you are interested, please call to discuss your ideas and availability.

Donations are always greatly appreciated! Items that we are always looking for:
play dough, wet wipes, outdoor play toys, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, glue sticks, Lysol wipes, art supplies and hats and gloves.

- School days are Monday-Thursday from 8:30-2:30.
- Transportation provided in limited areas with central pick-up and drop-off locations.
- We serve a nutritious breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.
- Potawatomi language and culture is incorporated throughout each day.
- The program does accept children with disabilities.

Head Start Calendar
September 30, 2010 (Thursday)—Family Fun Night from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
September 30, 2010 (Thursday)—Parent Committee & Policy Council Elections and Celebrating Home Fundraiser begins.
October 15, 2010 (Friday)—All Celebrating Home money due.
October 28, 2010 (Thursday)—Family Fun Night from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

September Birthdays
Mrs. Kathy—September 4, 2010
Jonathan Dash—September 21, 2010—Happy 4th Birthday!
Jerad Goodger—September 26, 2010—Happy 4th Birthday!

October Birthdays
Ms. Linda—October 18, 2010
Braylan Parker—October 22, 2010—Happy 3rd Birthday!
Claire Starrett—October 23, 2010—Happy 4th Birthday!

continued from p. 8
3rd: Kare Funmaker (Ho-Chunk, Wisconsin)

Men's Adult 18- 49
Traditional
1st: RJ Smith (LCO Ojibwe, Michigan)
2nd: Heath LittleJohn (Ho-Chunk, Wisconsin
3rd: Jefferson Ballew (Pokagon, Michigan)

Grass
1st: Austin Summers (Oneida, Wisconsin)
2nd: Armando Lucio (Lipan, Apache, Indiana)
3rd: Jesse Oldman (N. Arapaho, LTTB Odawa, Michigan)

Fancy
1st: Adrian Harjo (Kickapoo, Seminole, Canada)
2nd: James Chupco (Menominee, Michigan)

Golden Age 50+
1st: Ken Funmaker (Ho-Chunk, Meskawki, Wisconsin)
2nd: Mike King (Oneida, Wisconsin)
3rd: Amos Key Jr (Canada)

Girls 5-11 years old

Traditional
1st: Tristin Antoine-Jackson (Saginaw Chippewa, Michigan)
2nd: Onyleen Zapata (Huron Potawatomi, Michigan)
3rd: Ofelia Zapata (Huron Potawatomi, Michigan)

Jingle
1st: Ana Wemigwase (LTTB Odawa , Michigan)
2nd: Maya Schuyler (Oneida, Odawa, Michigan)
3rd: Jasmine Hosier (Miami Of Oklahoma, Indiana)

Fancy
1st: Jasmyne Antoine-Jackson (Saginaw Chippewa, Michigan)
2nd: Alexa Oldman (N. Arapaho, LTTB Odawa, Michigan)
3rd: Migwaans Smith (LCO Ojibwe, Odawa, Michigan)

Teens Girls 12-17
Traditional
1st: Alicya Wix (LTTB Odawa, Michigan)
2nd: Landra Platero (Navajo, Michigan)
3rd: Cyann Pina (Arikara, Illinois)

Jingle
1st: Waskwane Stonefish (Odawa, Ojibwe, Delaware, Potawatomi, Michigan)
2nd: Sarah Ballew (Pokagon, Michigan)
3rd: Shay Schuyler (Oneida, Odawa, Michigan)

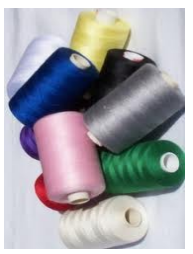
Fancy
1st: Beedoskah Stonefishawa (Ojibwe, Delaware, Potawatomi, Michigan)
2nd: Skylar Ballew, Pokagon, Michigan)
3rd: Alilee Bah Church Pokagon, Navajo, New Mexico)

Adults 18-49 yrs old
Traditional
1st: Vanny Wheelock (Oneida, Wisconsin)
2nd: Monica Raphael (Anishnabe, Michigan)
3rd: Shanna Dawes (Crow Sho Ban, Idaho)

Jingle
1st : Ann Marie Prue (Oneida, Ojibwe, Canada)
2nd: Alexa Rae Funmaker (Anishnabe, Michigan)
3rd: Josee Starr (Omaho,Odawa, Indiana)
continued on p. 11

Costume Workshop

Saturday October 16, 2010
2:30pm-5:30pm
@ Pokagon Band
Department of Education



- Exchange or donate gently used costumes
- We have some supplies and space for you to work with
- We will have ideas for costumes based on literary figures
- Bring your own supplies or use ours
- We will have healthy treats and the recipes to make them



This could be a great chance to make a costume for the party on October 23.

South Bend Area Office Schedule

Mondays: Housing staff will be available to provide information on housing programs.

1st Tuesday of the month: Health Services social worker
2nd Tuesday of the month: Contract Health Services processor
3rd Tuesday of the month: Community Health Nurse
4th Tuesday of the month: Community Health Representative
Each Tuesday: Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, foot care, diabetes management and prevention by appointment.

Wednesdays: Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and Workforce Investment Act applications.

Fridays: Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the daycare program will be available.

Changes Made to the Band's Burial Fund Code

The Tribal Council amended the Pokagon Band Burial Fund Code. For a copy of an amended version of the Burial Fund Code, please visit the Band's website at www.pokagonband-nsn.gov. Provided below is summary of the amendments.

Eligibility for the Burial Benefit– Changes to Eligibility Requirements Regarding Children Who Are Not Enrolled

Children of Pokagon Band members who are eligible for enrollment with the Band, but not yet enrolled, are covered by the Burial Benefit only if they are 5 years of age or younger. The Burial Benefit now covers Stillborn Children.

Payment of Burial Benefit – Changes to Payment Structure Regarding Distribution of Excess Funds
Previously, after the payment of monument, funeral, and funeral luncheon costs, any Burial Benefit funds remaining were distributed. The Burial Benefit of $10,000 will now be used solely to pay for the cost of a monument, funeral, and luncheon. After the payment of those three expenses, no excess funds will be distributed.
Reimbursement for Prepayment of Funeral and/or Monument Expenses – New Provision Permits Reimbursement for Prepaid Expenses Now in Limited Circumstances

If a Pokagon Band member prepaid the cost of his or her funeral and/or monument expenses via an irrevocable agreement with a funeral home or monument company on or before May 8, 2010, then the Pokagon Band will reimburse the Pokagon Band member the cost of such prepaid expenses, in accordance with the dollar limitations provided for funeral and monument expenses in the Code. Following reimbursement by the Band of the prepayment expenses, the member will not be covered by the Burial Benefit upon his or her death, to the extent the Band previously reimbursed the member for such expenses.

This is only a summary. Please review the Burial Fund Code for more specific details. If you have additional questions concerning these amendments or the Burial Fund in general, please contact the Band's Department of Social Services at (269) 782-8998 or (800) 517-0777.

Health Care Home Proposed for Indiana Citizens

By Donna Culpepper

With managed care around the corner, the Department of Health Services is exploring the option of creating a satellite health center in northern Indiana.

"We have a higher concentration of citizens in Berrien and Cass counties, which means that with our managed care initiative, we will be servicing around 1,500 citizens in our Dowagiac health care office," explained Arthur Culpepper, director of Pokagon Health Services. "If we create a satellite health center in northern Indiana, citizens in that area will not have to drive all the way to Michigan to receive their health care. We want to establish a health care home for our Indiana citizens."

There are currently more than 350 tribal members in northern Indiana. Another fifty citizens reside as far away as Indianapolis.

"Right now, those citizens living outside the Contract Health Services Delivery Area (CHSDA); the six (6) county portion of the service area, have to travel to Minneapolis or Nashville to receive care in other Indian Health Services (IHS) facilities, " said Culpepper. "By creating a satellite, we will not only ease the burden of travel for our own area people, but will also be able to provide care for those living in the southern regions of the state."

The proposed satellite would provide most services that are currently available at the main office in Dowagiac. Patients could have their lab work drawn, pick up their prescriptions, make appointments to see the physician and have access to other types of health services. Contract Health Service coordination would also be available for citizens using the new office. In some instances, patients could turn in medical information, update their records and obtain Medicare/ Medicaid qualification information.

Hours of operation would be dependent on patient need.

"We would survey the citizen base in that area to see if they would benefit from having the office open Monday through Friday, eight to five. Or, the need could be to have office hours Thursday through Saturday, late afternoon to early evening hours, to accommodate those that work," stated Culpepper. "Citizens need to be the driver."

Cost savings to the Band would be seen almost immediately, according to Culpepper.

"Many of our patients use outside pharmacies to fill their prescriptions, which means we are paying full retail price for those pharmaceutical purchases. Last year, we spent more than $750,000 on filling the prescriptions of our citizens. In managing these costs by using our own pharmacy, we will see as much as a 25 percent savings in the first year alone. We could potentially see upwards to 50 percent savings in the coming years," he added.

"Most citizens don't realize that in using our own clinics, they are helping the Band financially. When they use our facility and our physicians, we in turn are able to bill either their outside insurance or Medicare/Medicaid for the visit or other services. Then a portion of that visit is paid back to the tribe and we can use that money to finance additional programs and services for our citizens."

Managing rising health care costs are vital to the future of the Pokagon Band. If the band does not begin a system to ensure allotted funds from IHS are managed effectively and used in a recommended fashion, expenses will only increase. Twenty-cents of every dollar earned goes toward health care in this country. If we continue our current health care spending practices, we could potentially see significantly increased costs.

Opening the proposed satellite office would also create four new staff positions: a receptionist, a nurse manager, a medical assistant and a part-time physician.

"At this time, we are not looking to make this office completely independent of our main hub in Dowagiac. Patients would still need to come to the main clinic for optical and footwear services. The satellite would be established to ease the patient flow in the main clinic and to provide access for our citizens in Indiana.

"Our goal is to have a location secured by next spring," added Culpepper. "We are looking at sites in St. Joseph, Elkhart and LaPorte County."

The Department of Health Services is also making plans to create a presence for a larger range of tribal service in the future, including a facility that would not only contain health care services, but also incorporate other programs from housing and education for Indiana citizens.

AA/NA Meetings
Tuesday nights 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Friday nights 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Health Services building II
Use the side door for entry.

Guidelines for Pokégnek Yajdanawa Submissions

Enrolled citizens of the Pokagon Band are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry, and announcements for publication in Pokégnek Yajdanawa. Submissions shall be the views and product of the submitting member. Submissions written by or to a third-party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to Pokégnek Yajdanawa are not original.

Anonymous or "name withheld" submissions will not be published. Members shall include their tribal enrollment number, full name, and mailing address with all newsletter submissions. Tribal enrollment number and mailing address will be used for verification purposes and will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Newsletter staff will contact members should any reason arise that may delay or prevent posting of newsletter submissions. To ensure timely communication with members regarding their newsletter submissions, members may choose to provide additional contact information such as a phone number or e-mail address. Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and other provided contact information will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Newsletter staff reserves the right to refuse submissions based on the following criteria;

1. False, misleading, or defamatory;
2. Discriminatory, sexist, racist, demeaning, insulting, or otherwise offensive to another;
3. Threatening, harassing, intimidating, or otherwise may tend to produce fear;
4. Profane, obscene, pornographic, indecent, or patently offensive to the average user;
5. Disruptive to the office, undermining of the Band's or a supervisor's authority, or impairing of working relationships; and
6. Absolutely no political campaigning is allowed.

continued from p. 10

Fancy
1st: Leela Abrahamson (Shoshone, Bannock, Michigan)
2nd: Heather Schuyler (Oneida,Odawa, Michigan)
3rd: Alicia Summers (Oneida, Wisconsin)

Golden Age 50+
1st: Debbie Plain (Ojibwe, Canada)
2nd: Debbie Klein (Oneida, Michigan)
3rd: Cathy Gibson (LTTB Odawa, Michigan)

Deadline to receive changes/updates/additions in Finance Department	Checks mailed out on	Check date for direct deposits
Friday, October 15, 2010	Thurs, Oct 28, 2010	Fri, Oct 29, 2010
Monday, November 15, 2010	Tues, Nov 23, 2010	Wed, Nov 24, 2010

Per Capita News

The following list of citizens have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office for Per Capita payment distribution and 2009 Christmas checks. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band enrollment office to verify the address.

1499	Peter Cusi Gibbons-Ballew
3282	Daniel Sanderson
0083	John Dylan Watson
0406	Michael Lynn Hewitt
0433	Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
0434	Thomas Charles Abercrombie
0857	Peter John Ramirez
1283	Jodi Lynn Burfield
1445	Michael David Bush
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes
1506	Michaela Lynne Canard
2795	Edward F Cushway
2805	Isabel Marie Campos

The following list of citizens have not contacted the enrollment office to verify their valid addresses to receive their 2009 Christmas checks.

BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
RUBY TUESDAY BALEY
MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
NICHOLAS RAY BENNETT
FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
IAN THOMAS CURREY
PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

From the Tribal Chairman



It has been a busy but productive and positive month. I would like to begin with a big chi-migwetch to the committee for their fine work in presenting the 25th annual Kee Boon Mein Kaa Pow Wow. It was a tremendous event with a packed house, and I saw and heard some of the best dancing and drumming I can remember. Even though this was represented as our 25th I was reminded that we have been holding this celebration forever. We are just continuing the tradition. Again I wish to extend my appreciation for all of the hard work—and I know it takes a toll—to all of those who assisted in making this a great experience for everyone. I can't wait until next year.

The other nice event was the celebration of reaffirmation. This was our sixteenth year and we had a find turnout despite the threat of bad weather. I drove through some pretty big thunder storms to get here only to find that the rain and storms had by-passed the campus. We received a little rain in the afternoon but most of the events were over. Congratulations to all the winners of the various drawings and thanks to Mike Jackson for a fine meal. Thanks also to all of the tribal citizens who took the time to celebration this occasion with the family.

As some of you have reminded me, I made several commitments to promote issues that I believed were important to our future this past year. I was confident that council would share the same opinion as I did. I would like to report on our accomplishments as I indicated I would, but I want to break this into two different reports. To try to make this into one report would take too much space in the paper. I am reprinting those issues word for word, and then providing council's action in italics:

"We need to reaffirm the respect of our Elders. I have seen on too many occasions Elders shown disrespect and this is inappropriate, unnecessary and not consistent with our culture."

I believe we have made strong strides in treating our Elders consistently with respect and honor due them. Council consults with the Elders Council on judicial appointment and appointments to the Ethics Board. We also ask their input on other matters of significant to the tribe and recognize their wisdom on every occasion we can. I try to attend as many Elder Council meetings as I can and provide a brief comment on ongoing issues.

"I support essential services to our citizens. Two of my priorities are health and education. If we can provide the means to educate our citizens, it will allow us to break the cycle of dependency. I will work with Council to upgrade and expand our health care capabilities. Preventative care is a way to save money. We have a responsibility to our citizens to assist them in every way possible. A healthy life style equals a healthy quality of life. This should be a primary goal for us."

I believe this is evident by the ongoing expansion in our health department. The director and his staff have made providing quality and respectful service their number one priority. We have our own doctor on staff along with several nurses. Our pharmacy is open and we will soon be in the position to mail prescriptions to our tribal citizens. We are moving into managed care which will lead to tremendous savings to the program and the ability for the doctor to monitor that you are getting the appropriate care from your health care provider.

The idea was providing health care insurance to our citizens is still being reviewed. This is a more time consuming and expensive process than was originally anticipated, but we are committed to a full review to determine if it is a service we can offer.

I believe within the next year we will find that our clinic has been certified, which will provide a much higher level of comfort to our citizens knowing that we have licensed employees treating them and that our facility meets all the required standards. This will be a MAJOR step forward in our attempts to provide the best service to our citizens.

Our education department continues to move forward and this year we assisted with the college graduation of sixteen tribal citizens. We should be proud of all of our graduates, but I want to point out we had one doctor of medicine and one lawyer in the group, along with a couple of citizens who had completed their masters degree. Congratulations to all of you, we are very proud of your accomplishments.

Our director continues to explore ways to help our citizens improve their education. I think you will see improvement in our tutoring and GED assistance programs.

"With Council's support, I pledge to have a government-to-government relationship with the administration of the state of Indiana by the end of my first year as Chairman."

If you have followed my past comments, you will know we have met this commitment. We now have contacts in the governor's office and we met with Governor Daniels last month, albeit, informally, it was a very productive meeting. Stay tuned, this relationship is only going to improve. We are in the process of scheduling a nice event that will help us further develop our presence in Indiana.

"I will work with council to continue our land acquisition in Indiana. We are in the early stages of building a land base that will allow us to serve our citizens better and create additional economic development and expand our housing stock."

We have completed most of the purchases that we intend at this time and now are working to finalize the process to have this land taken into trust. We will keep you updated as this process moves forward.

"I will make it a priority for our citizens to have the ability to watch council, committee, or training sessions by remote viewing. The technology is there. We have to implement improved communication with our citizens. This will include a more thorough and informative newsletter; and the hiring of a communications specialist to achieve this goal."

While this process hasn't been as easy as was first thought, we are now online with the ability for our citizens to watch our council meetings. I understand this may be unavailable to citizens with a certain type of operating system, but IT is working to eliminate this problem. We will expand this service once all the bugs are worked out to include committee meetings and training/cultural presentations in the future. This is going to be an extremely important service to our citizens.

I will break at this point in the report and follow-up next month with the remainder of the report. I hope you all can appreciate the efforts that this council is making as we work to improve the quality of life for our people. This must be our number one commitment and will appear in many different forms. We all too often hear the negative comments, which come with the job when you work in government, but I'm happy to say the positive comments are starting to be heard also. Thank you all for your support of Tribal Council.

In closing, I hope you all enjoyed the Pow-Wow and the Reaffirmation Day celebration, and please continue to remember our veterans and those currently serving. The freedom we enjoy is a direct result of their willingness to sacrifice. As always, my phone is on and my door is open. If you are in the area please stop in and say hi.

Matt

Tribal Council **October** Calendar of Events

4 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
5 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
9 Tribal Council Citizen Meeting, 10 a.m. Lodge
11 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
12 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
16 Quarterly Citizen Meeting, 10 a.m., Dowagiac Middle School
18 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
19 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
25 Tribal Council Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Lodge
26 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
28 Tribal Council Special Session, 6 p.m., Lodge

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov or call 1-888-782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Family Welfare Commission Looking to Fill Open Positions

The Pokagon Band is seeking applications from Pokagon Band members interested in serving on the Pokagon Band Family Welfare Commission. There are currently three open seats on the five member Commission. In order to protect the best interests of our children, the Pokagon Band Tribal Council formed the Family Welfare Commission by adoption of the Family Welfare Commission Ordinance on November 6, 2001. The Commission was designed not only to protect the best interests of Pokagon Band children, but also to: Promote the stability and security of Pokagon Band families; Recommend to the judicial and administrative agencies involved, a course of action for the guidance and care of Pokagon Band children which most preserves the unity of the family; Recommend actions that will best serve the cultural, spiritual, emotional, mental and physical welfare of the child; Recommend a continuum of services for Pokagon Band children and their families with emphasis whenever possible on prevention, early intervention, and community based alternatives; Recognize and acknowledge the cultural traditions of the Pokagon Band for child-rearing and family preservation. The Commission meets approximately once each month at Elders Hall, depending on the needs of the Commission, and meets at additional times as may be needed to address other specific matters. Family Welfare Commission members typically spend several additional hours per month preparing for Commission meetings or engaged in other Commission activities. The Family Welfare Commission Ordinance is available at the following internet address: http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm.

Family Welfare Commissioners are compensated as independent contractors in the amount of $75 for attending each Family Welfare Commission meeting. In addition, Commission members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Family Welfare Commission business.

Qualifications of Commissioners

A. A Commissioner may not also be a member of Tribal Council.

B. An individual considered for appointment must be an enrolled Tribal member, at least 18 years of age, with knowledge and experience demonstrated through educational, occupational or volunteer activities in the following areas:

1. childhood education;
2. childhood development;
3. Pokagon Band or other tribal customs and traditions pertaining to child rearing;
4. governmental and private programs to assist children and families in need; and
5. individual and family dysfunction, the types, causes, and treatment.

C. Neither an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the Band or of the federal government, or a state or local government, who is involved with or possibly involved with the delivery of services relating to child welfare matters within the scope of the Commission duties and authority may be appointed or serve as a Commissioner.

D. Immediate family members, as defined in the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code, of any family may not serve simultaneously on the Commission.

Requirements for Appointment to the Commission

A. Commissioners must sign and abide by a statement acknowledging the standards of confidentiality required for serving as a Commissioner.

B. Commissioners must submit to and pass a background check conducted by the Tribal Police Department subject to such written guidelines or procedures as may be established by the Tribal Police Department. The background check serves the purpose of assisting the Tribal Council in determining whether a prospective Commissioner could pose any risk to the safety or welfare of a child or may otherwise be unsuitable for appointment to the Commission. The background check shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the Commissioner's criminal history, including any arrest record and history of investigation by State Systems for suspected child abuse or neglect. A background check shall be conducted prior to the appointment or re-appointment of every Commissioner.

C. Every Commissioner shall be of good character and reputation, shall not associate with dishonest or disreputable persons, and shall exhibit high moral standards at all times.

Appointment Process Appointments to the Family Welfare Commission are made by the Tribal Council. Each Commissioner shall serve a term of three (3) years.

How to Apply

Contact the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777 to obtain an application. Please submit a completed application to:
Mark Pompey, Director
Pokagon Band Department of Social Services
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Questions concerning the Family Welfare Commission may be directed to the Director of Social Services, Mark Pompey, at 800-517-0777 or mark.pompey@PokagonBand-NSN.gov.
Note: Posting to be removed by November 2010.

Ethics Requirements

As Public Officials, Family Welfare Commissioners are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained from the Band's website at http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm or by contacting Mark Pompey at the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777.

ELDERS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES, September 2, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:18 AM
INVOCATION: Jeff Ballew
ROLL CALL: Margaret Rapp, P, Ken Rader, P, Clarence White, A, excused, Audrey Huston, P.
Also in attendance, Yvonne (Petey) Boehm, Lynn Davidson

AGENDA: Brad Yazell, gave a talk about pre-arranging funerals. He also showed some of the caskets made of white pine that most of the Native Americans are using. Some of our people would like to have our logo used. Jeanne Mollett will take the sample of the logo to Council and asked if it could be used.
Ed Williams, Tribal attorney explained the new burial fund. One factor that needs to be noted: if not all the money is used it will not be given to the next of kin.
It would be best if you do not understand the burial code, to contact Mark Pompey and he will answer any questions you may have. Telephone 269-782-8998.
Petey Boehm, informed us that she, Bonnie Parrish, Ken Rader of Elders Council will be attending the NICOA conference and MIEA conference.
Active Living exercise classes will soon be starting. Basket making will start in October.
Becky Price, RN, informed us that Pharmacist Shelly Smith will be setting up clinics for flu shots. One of our Elders asked if she could come to Elders Hall and give them, as this was how it was done in the past. Will let us know.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Maxine would like to see jackets purchased for the Elders. Faye Magnuson to check on cost. Bonnie Parrish would like to have the Information concerning MIEA scholarships printed in the newsletter each month. She will talk to Paige about it.
MINUTES: None, lack of quorum for August.
TREASURERS REPORT: Audrey gave the report as Clarence was absent. Margaret moved to accept the report, Ken, supported, (3) yes, (1) absent. Passed.
NEW BUSINESS: Would like to find some speakers for our social luncheons.
OLD BUSINESS: Bingo will be held on Thursday. A Halloween party is also planned.
COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Language classes are held every Monday at Elders Hall, 11:00 am – 12:00pm.
Active Living classes will resume in the fall.
Men's health fair will be held October 7, 2010, 3:00pm – 7:00pm.
Basket making will start in November.
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:
Rita Yount, Tom Wesaw Jr., Myrna Wiggins, Tom Parrish, John Morseau, Morris Lewis, Brenda Brown, Louis Wesaw, Robert Grant, Kathy Grant.
SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:
Bill & Shirley Sigfrids, Robert & Kathy Grant.
ADJOURNMENT: Ken moved to adjourn, Margaret, supported, (3) yes, (1) Absent. Adjourned, 2:50pm.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik ❖ Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Tribal Council Directory

Chairman
Matthew Wesaw
517-719-5579 or 574-591-9806
Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Vice-chairman
Butch Starrett
269-591-2901
Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Secretary
Faye Wesaw
269-782-1864
Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Treasurer
Troland Clay
269-591-5205
Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Members at Large

Steve Winchester
269-591-0119
Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Michaelina Magnuson
269-591-5616
Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Alice Overly
269-240-8041
Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov

John Warren
269-214-2610
John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Marie Manley
269-214-2609
Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Tom Topash
269-470-3745
Tom.Topash@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Lynn Davidson, Elders Representative
269-240-8092
Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary
269-591-0604
Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Council Lodge Phone: 1-888-376-9988

Tribal Council
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-6323 /
Toll Free (888) 376-9988
FAX (269) 782-9625

Elders Program
53237 Townhall Rd.
(269) 782-0765 /
Toll Free (800) 859-2717
FAX (269) 782-1696

Administration
Information Technology
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-6882

Social Services
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-4295

Health Services /
Behavioral Health
57392 M 51 South
(269) 782-4141 /
Toll Free (888) 440-1234
FAX (269) 782 - 8797

Natural Resources
32142 Edwards St.
(269) 782-9602 Phone
(269) 783-0452 Fax

Education and Training
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-0887/
FAX (269) 782-0985

Finance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-1028

Enrollment
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-1763 /
FAX (269) 782-1964

Commodities
(269) 782-3372 /
Toll Free (888) 281-1111
FAX (269)782-7814

Head Start
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0026/
(866)-250-6573
FAX (269) 782-9795

South Bend Area Office
310 W. Mc Kinley Ave. Suite 300
Mishawaka, IN. 46545
(574)-255-2368 /
Toll Free (800) 737-9223
FAX (574) 255-2974

Housing
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0443 /
FAX (269) 783-0452

Tribal Court
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0505 /
FAX (269) 783-0519

Tribal Police
58155 M-51 South
(269) 782-2232 /
Toll Free (866-399-0161)
FAX (269) 782-7988

Election
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-9475 /
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Human Resources / Compliance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998

Tribal Citizens' Spouses May Apply for Temporary Staffing Pool

The Pokagon Band temporary pool will accept applications from tribal citizens and their spouses. Native American preference still applies, so the spouses will be considered if a Pokagon Band citizen is unavailable for the position. Pay for temporary positions is $8.50 per hour.

Tribal citizens interested in assisting with filling temporary vacancies on an "on-call" basis are encouraged to call Lori Harris at (269) 782-8998 or 800-517-0777. Employment applications are available at the Pokagon Band administration office at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac.

Applicants must pass the following background checks: criminal background, a motor vehicle report, work history, references, tribal membership (or spouse of enrolled tribal citizen) and DSH clearance (if applicable).

You must submit to and pass a drug and alcohol test. Temporary personnel will be subject to applicable rules of the Pokagon Band Personnel Policy Handbook.

This is an excellent opportunity to occasionally supplement income and gain experience while aiding the government in continuing smooth delivery of services. Call for an appointment today.

October Elders Lunch Menu

PLEASE CALL THE DAY BEFORE if you are not a regular attendee for meals.
Meals subject to change 269-782-0765 or 800-859-2717 Meal Service Begins at 12:00 Noon

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Note: milk, tea, coffee, water, & Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, and onion served with sandwiches and burgers.				1 Veggie OR Meat Pizza Day Tossed Salad Fresh Fruit
04 Buffalo Lasagna Garden Salad Yogurt W/ Fruit Cup Roll	05 Tator Tot Casserole W/ Italian Ground Turkey and Mixed Veggies Coleslaw/ Sliced Tomatoes Peaches Cornbread	06 Sea Bass Rice Pilaf Vegetable Kabobs Strawberries and Blueberries Roll	07 Business Swedish Meatballs W/ Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Green Beans Waldorf Salad Roll	08 Minestrone Soup Chicken Salad Sandwich Spinach Salad Fruit
11 Grilled Pork Steaks Baked Potato Asparagus Tomato Salad Baked Apples Roll	12 Potato Soup Egg Salad Sandwich Garden Salad Fruit Pizza	13 Beef Roast Potatoes & Rutabaga Carrots Tossed Salad/ Cottage Cheese Roll	14 Buffalo Sloppy Joes on a Bun Baked Beans Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad Jell-O Fruit	15 Baked Salmon Wild Rice Garden Salad Carrots & Peas Melon Slices Roll
18 Beef Spaghetti Spinach Salad Broccoli Peaches Garlic Bread	19 Grilled Pork Chops Baked Steak Fries Brussels Sprouts Garden Salad Apple Crisp Roll	20 Buffalo Stew Garden Salad Fruit Salad Corn Bread Sherbet	21 Social Baked Chicken Red Potatoes Summer Squash and Zucchini Garden Salad Yogurt W/ Fruit Roll	22 Black Bean & Sweet Potato Chili Broccoli Slaw Cherry Crisp Cornbread
25 Turkey Stuffed Peppers Alfredo Noodles Tomatoes/ Cottage Cheese Watermelon Roll	26 Buffalo Meatloaf Baked Potato Corn on the Cob Garden Salad Fresh Fruit Roll	27 Swiss Steak Mashed Potatoes Broccoli, Cauliflower, & carrots Garden Salad Blueberry Crisp Roll	28 Salmon Patties Bakes Steak Fries Green Bean Casserole Ambrosia Salad Roll	29 Cream of Chicken W/ Wild Rice Soup Grilles Cheese Sandwich Veggie Tray Pineapple/ Cottage Cheese

Tobacco Sales

Cigarettes are sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We sell Basic, Marlboro, and Newport brands and a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston. Sales are handled by the receptionist Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. You must be 18 years old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. Maximum of five cartons per month per tribal citizen**.** Credit cards accepted.



Happy 6th birthday to my big first grader, Jasmine Rangel, 9/4! You're getting to be such a big girl!
Happy 5th birthday to my special kindergartener Josiah, 9/16! I can't believe you're growing up so fast!
We love you both so very much. You make me proud everyday!
Love, Mommy, Zach and the twins
Also from Gramma Kim, Uncle Corey, Uncle Kerby, and Max xoxo



Happy 1st Birthday
Chelsy Ariel Olson
10/05/2010

Love, Mom, Dad, and Sydney



Happy Birthday to my beautiful babies
BRITTAINY Rangel, 25 years old 10/31 and
COREY Rangel, 24 years old 10/9!
Love you so much,
Mom. Kerby, Jasmine, Josiah, Zach, and Max

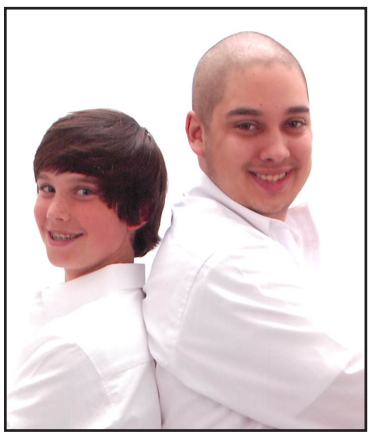
xoxoxo



Happy Birthday to Hugo Gregory Alexis who was 3 in September!!



Happy 2nd Birthday to our little monster, Tade. Love you, Mommy, Daddy, and Big Brother Aidan.



Happy 24th Birthday to Freddy Rader III, 10/16
and
Happy 16th Birthday to Joshua Rader, 10/7
We love you both very much,

Mom and Dad



Congratulations David and Brianna on your beautiful new baby, Lillian Reagan Wesaw

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Administrative Office
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

November 2010

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Pokagon Community Eagle Staff Carried to Eagle Staff Gathering

Pokagon Band veterans Roger Williams, Butch Starrett and Anthony Foerster, and Tribal Council member John Warren carried the Band's Eagle Staff to an Eagle Staff gathering in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan October 1-3. Dozens of Native veterans came together with their tribes' staffs for the gathering. Doris Boisseneau, an Ojibwe teacher and speaker at Sault College, began organizing these gatherings nine years ago. In her keynote speech, she acknowledged that, "the staffs are considered alive, a spirit that stands there." Warren noted, "When eagles are teaching their young to fly, they'll swoop under and give the eaglet a lift if it's falling. These staffs do that for us. They remind us who we are, and that our beliefs are what really matter. The staffs are cared for by their carriers, but really they carry us."Anthony Foerster, Marine veteran, wrote the following about his time at the gathering.

It was a powerful experience for the Pokagon Community Eagle Staff to attend the Eagle Staff Gathering. The event was created with the vision that just as people meet on an annual basis, so should





the eagle staffs. This is an event just for the staff itself. The eagle staff mingles with the other staffs during the event. It was said that the feathers on the staff talk to one another. Everyone there was given the opportunity to talk about their staff, some of which were very enlightening and informative.

An eagle staff can be created to honor a variety of things. Tradition dictates that it is the responsibility of the tribe to distribute honor. Tribes have varying ways of doing this. Elders have the honor bestowed on them to be sought out for wisdom, to lead in prayers, and to point the younger members in the right direction of life. Veterans, with the role as life takers, have the various honors bestowed on them for the risk that they have taken for their service in the Armed Forces and as providers. Women, with roles as life givers, have their honors as well. Honor is what holds the tribe together. Honor is what healed the warriors after battle or long periods of strife preparing for battle. Honor is what keeps women doing what they need to do to give life, take care of the food, clothing, medicines, and water that keep us alive and hold the family together. Based on this thinking, to extend honor to someone for extraordinary things not only rewards a member for doing great things, but inspires others to do the extraordinary things for which honor is awarded. Those people that do great things are the catalyst for instilling in our children the honorable principles that are the essence in our way of life. With this said, the tribal community needs to support the creation of the eagle staff. Without community support, it does not have the honor that makes an eagle staff what it is. It is just a stick with eagle feathers, and that is a dishonor to the feathers and the beliefs that they represent.

The event began Friday evening with registering and socializing. Saturday morning started early with a sunrise ceremony in an enclosed fire pit. The fire was beautiful and had medicines in all four directions. We smudged ourselves, the staffs and smoked the pipe. After breakfast, we assembled next to the Veteran's Monument. It was a granite marble that had a reflective picture in it. Seeing the reflection of all the eagle staffs gathered in a circle around the monument was an awe inspiring moment. The power of the eagle staffs along with those veterans with a distinguished background is an indescribable feeling. From there, we did a grand entry into the building where we posted our staff for the remainder of the weekend. We had staff carriers talk about their staffs until we went downtown to participate in a homecoming ceremony for a local National Guard unit returning from Iraq.

During this ceremony, the Sault tribe's drum was given front stage honors and all the eagle staffs present at the gathering lined up on both sides of those young troops men and women just freshly returned from the theatre of war. They had not even been with their families yet. It felt good to flank both sides of those young warriors. The U.S. Army placed us in the highest positions of honor. Those eagle staffs were held proudly as the feathers danced in the wind during that song.

We started Sunday with frosted windows and a sunrise ceremony inside to the cultural center. After breakfast and feeding the staffs, we smoked the pipe. It was interesting to observe the method used by the pipe carrier who blew into the bowl of the pipe to make the smoke come out of the smoking end of the pipe.

During our long journey back we spoke about traditions and some new concepts in our teachings. We need to consider how we plan on addressing some of the issues that challenge the traditional way of thinking. We have women fighting in combat and dying. Should a woman who has served in the military have the honor of carrying an eagle staff? Should the title of warrior be shared with someone who has dedicated their working life to the service of the Anishnabek? If so, do we allow this individual to carry an eagle staff? We have much to consider as the Anishnabek progresses in a modern age and our traditions may need to experience growth as well.

Pokagon Band Hosts First Language Immersion Weekend

by John Winchester, Language Facilitator

September 10 through 13 the Pokagon Band hosted our first Bodewadmi Zheshmowen workshop. We named the event Mamwe Gge Yawmen Ewi Gigdoygo, which means "Let's all be together so we can talk." The workshop was offered for all Potawatomi people interested in learning and keeping alive Bodewadmi Zheshmowen, our Potawatomi language.

On average twenty-five people participated on each of the four days. The vocabulary and focus of the workshop was based on concepts in 200 Words to a Community, a three year project supported by a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) for the Gun Lake, Huron, and Pokagon Bands.

Jim Thunder, Forest County Potawatomi, opened with the invocation on Friday morning, and presented how to use everyday verbs selected from our 200 words list. Each morning was filled with Jim helping us to be able to speak our Potawatomi language about simple everyday tasks and activities.

Kim Wensaut, also enrolled at Forest County, assisted Jim in the morning sessions and presented our Potawatomi language by way of immersion in the afternoon sessions. She utilized physical-response techniques, games, and visual aids to immerse us and engage us in speaking our language.

Frank Barker, who has been helping us learn our language for more than eleven years, helped us understand how to utilize the different sides of our brain to maximize our learning potential in acquiring our language. Frank always makes class time enjoyable with interactive games and visual learning techniques.



Kevin Daugherty, right, tries to guess the animal taped to his back by asking, from left, Dawn Hill, the ANA language program coordinator at Hannahville Indian Community, Andy Jackson, and Joe Sagataw, also from Hannahville, questions in Potawatomi during the language immersion weekend.

Lou Aitkens, of the Prairie Band Potawatomi, presented an analysis of the old Topash Prayer, a prayer published in *The Prairie Potawatomi* an ethnographic study written by Ruth Landes in the early twentieth century. Lou has managed to unravel the old writing system used by Landes, and to render the text of the prayer into the more accessible WNALP (Wisconsin Native American Language Project) writing system, which most Potawatomi language learners are now using or are familiar with. Lou also engaged us all in a fun activity where we each took the place of a speech part and stood in a line to represent the full sentence. We each displayed a paper plate with our word, alternating and changing the tense, personal pronouns, and so on.

Thomas Loftis, a Citizen Band Potawatomi, was on hand to help us all with pronunciation, sorting out how the language works and translating. Thomas also built the 4 x 8 dry erase board which all presenters used, which made everything so much easier to see.

On the last day, members of the Tribal Council joined us at the pavilion to play Name that Tune in the Potawatomi language. Most of the song titles were from the 60s, which matched the predominately baby-boomer age group well and was a lot of fun!

Before eating the evening meal, Jim Thunder spoke on the distinctiveness of our Potawatomi language and how important it is to keep it alive.

We are still working on getting the digital materials ready to send to participants. And we are already lining up our first planning session for next year's Potawatomi language immersion event. One item we need to improve on is to get the word out sooner.

Thanks to Kevin (Kében) Daugherty for an extraordinary job as our Master of Ceremonies. Thanks also to Andy Jackson, Matt Morsaw, and Marie Willis from our Education Department, to members of the Traditions Committee, Pokagon Promise, and to the many dedicated Potawatomi language student volunteers. Special thanks goes to the Hannahville Indian Community for the formatting of this workshop. And very special thanks to our Pokagon Band Tribal Council for their unanimous support of the current Potawatomi language curriculum project, of which this immersion workshop marks the half-way point.

Pokégnek Yajdanawa

Pokégnek Yajdanawa is the monthly voice of Pokégnek Bodéwadmik, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. Citizens are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry and announcements for publication in *Pokegnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions are subject to the established guidelines.

The deadline for citizen submissions for the newsletter is always the 14th of the month. Please send items for publication to:

Pokégnek Yajdanawa
Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn. gov

Students Can Earn Credits for Studying Native Languages, Says New Michigan Law

On October 7 Teresa Magnuson, the director of the Pokagon Band's new Department of Language and Culture, joined leaders and members of four other Native American tribes and Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm as the governor signed Senate Bill 1014 into law. This new law allows students to get credit for Native American tribal language and culture classes taught by tribal elders rather than traditional certified educators.

The new law will permit the Michigan Department of Education to work with federally-recognized Native American tribes to allow a tribe, school district, or public school academy to use teachers who do not possess a valid Michigan teaching certificate to teach a Native American tribal language and culture class. The teacher would need to demonstrate a mastery of the tribal language, and the plan would include requirements for renewal or continuing approval of the teacher. The act will enable students to receive credit for a Native American tribal language class and apply it toward their foreign language requirements. Students must take credits in a foreign language in order to meet Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements.



"With this new law we will put the best teachers, the tribal members who have the greatest knowledge about their culture and language, into our classrooms and teaching our children," said Sen. Prusi. "I am happy to be the sponsor of this law because it means that all Michigan students will have the opportunity to be better informed about the history of our state, and about the people we share Michigan with and who have been here the longest."

Governor Jennifer Granholm was joined in her Capitol office by leaders and members of the Hannahville Indian Community Tribe of Potawatomi Indians, the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe), the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. The leaders who attended were Kenneth Meshigaud, Chairman, Hannahville Indian Community Tribe of Potawatomi Indians; Ed Pigeon, Vice Chairman, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe); Darwin "Joe" McCoy, Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; and Ken Harrington, Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. Dr. Flora Jenkins attended representing the Michigan Department of Education.

See page 11 for a profile of the new Department of Language and Culture.

President Obama Signs Indian Veterans Housing Opportunity Act into Law

New Law Will Help Veterans Access Affordable Housing

President Barrack Obama signed the Indian Veterans Housing Opportunity Act into law October 12. The Veterans' Act was passed in the Senate on September 29.

The Veterans' Act amends the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA) to be consistent with the IRS Tax Code and other federal statutes and regulations by excluding income received by a veteran, or his or her family, for service-related disability, dependency, or indemnity from the definition of income under NAHASDA. NAHASDA was passed in 1996 to allow tribal communities to more easily access housing grants by providing support to families who make less than 80 percent of the median income of their area.

"This is a deserving benefit for veterans who receive compensation for their services to our country," said Anthony Foerster, a Pokagon veteran and a Pokagon Band Department of Housing staff member. "Any compensation given to veterans should not be treated as income but as reparation. This country's greatness has been built upon the blood, sweat and tears of this nation's military. past and present. It is only fitting that we give them every benefit without encumbrance. I applaud Congress on this important legislation and President Obama for signing it into law. It is an important step taken in the recognition of one of our nation's treasures; the veteran."

The bill was originally introduced by Representative Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ) in the House and by Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) and co-sponsored by Senator John Thune (R-SD) in the Senate.

The problem was brought to the attention of Congress last year of members of the Navajo Housing Authority, who received concerns that veterans were ineligible for NAHASDA housing programs when they returned from military service. The Navajo Nation and the housing authority approached Rep. Kirkpatrick regarding a possible legislative fix, which started the bill's momentum.

"Native Americans have made incredible sacrifices to keep our country safe, and it is unacceptable that Native veterans and their families have been unable to receive the benefits they have earned for so many years. With our victory, more of America's heroes will be able to move into higher quality housing with their families, and communities across Indian Country will grow stronger," Rep. Kirkpatrick said in a statement. "However, enacting this law is just one of many steps we must take to help the tribes create new and better opportunities in Indian Country."

Kirkpatrick is now asking the Bureau of Indian Affairs to correct a similar problem with its Housing Improvement Programs, which is also causing problems for Native veterans.

Behavioral Health Earns Accreditation

By Patricia Holbrook, LMFT, CAAC, Behavioral Health Clinical Coordinator

Keepers of the Fire, the Pokagon Band Behavioral Health Program, is proud to announce that we completed our audit with the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) in September. We are now accredited for a year in the following programs:

- Integrated behavioral health/primary care (alcohol and other drugs, mental health) for adults, children, and adolescents.
- Outpatient treatment integrated: (alcohol and other drugs, mental health) for adults, children, and adolescents
- Case management/services coordination: integrated for adults

The auditors were very impressed with the program's vision and how it aligned with the tribe's vision, keeping a focus on service to our community to the best of our ability. They were also struck by our embodied cultural respect and program materials. The effort to complete the audit was collaboration between the entire Behavioral Health and Department of Health Services community.

It is a pleasure to be of service to the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and their families.

Webcasting for Remote Access to Tribal Council Meetings Made Available to Citizens

Want to attend a Tribal Council meeting the second Saturday of the month, but can't make it? If you have access to a computer and a broadband internet connection, you can view remotely by webcasting. The Department of Information Technology has been testing its webcasting equipment over the past few months, and more than twenty members have taken advantage of the service.

"I was able to log on and watch, or at least listen, to the membership meeting," writes Ed Hillyer, a citizen who has used the webcasting technology for a past meeting. "I have been busy, and usually use my weekends for office time to catch up on paperwork. At the same time I have wanted to get to hear what was going on with tribal business. I had no difficulty understanding how to download and connect to the webcast. It will truly be an asset to communicating with the members."

Follow these steps and participate in the monthly meetings from the comfort of your own home:

1. Visit http://www.pokagon-band-nsn.gov/webcast for information related to webcasting. Presently this is just a link dedicated to hosting the link to the external registration site.
2. Click the link to go to the registration form.
3. Complete the registration form.
4. The registration request is stored for manual review. The information is matched against Enrollment records and requests are approved. IT has had to deny requests when somebody used the wrong enrollment number and CID, which are found on the Enrollment card. If a Citizen has an old Enrollment card without CID # on it, he or she should contact Enrollment to be issued a new card. Enrollment has no record of who may have an old card.
5. Once approved, an e-mail notice goes out to the requestor indicating approval or denial along with access link and code for the webcasting session (Live Meeting).
6. Citizens will need to download the free Microsoft Live Meeting Client software either through the link at http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/webcast or from the e-mail confirmation. The client software is what enables access to the Live Meeting Service.
7. When the day and time arrives to join the meeting, the Citizen opens the e-mail confirmation and clicks the link to join the meeting. Citizens can join the meeting as early as 30 minutes before the meeting.
8. Once in the meeting, Citizens are muted so that only audio from the Tribal Council meeting room can be heard. The Tribal Council has opted to not take questions from the webcast participants, though the service is configured to permit Citizens taking turns to ask questions. Maybe this will be permitted in the future. Citizens are encouraged to call or e-mail their Tribal Council using contact information posted regularly in the tribal newsletter. The meeting agenda will be available as a handout (downloadable through the Live Meeting Client). Any documents that the Tribal Council provides IT in advance can be shared through the service in addition to the video and audio. Video provided consists of a video screen of the active speaker (or loudest person) and a panoramic view of the room (Citizens and Council Members).
9. We'll ask for re-registration every six months to make sure we have accurate e-mail addresses for everyone. Registration is now open for webcasts through December 11, 2010. Registration for webcasts through June 11, 2011 will open December 15, 2010.

Native Craft Show
Saturday, November 13
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Pokagon Tribal Pavilion



Open to Native Vendors Only

For more information contact Julie Farver (269) 782-8998
julie.farver@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Sponsored by the Pokagon Band Pow Wow Committee

CONTACT : ANDY JACKSON 269-462-4261

Fall Spirit Feast

Tribal Lodge Pavilion
58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac MI, 49047

Language and Culture Department

TIME: 6:00-8:00PM

The Language and Culture Department is hosting a fall spirit feast to honor our ancestors who have walked on. The Veteran's Eagle Staff will be present to share eagle staff teachings before the meal is served.

We recognize that there are different teachings, but that we all come together for the same purpose. For those who are not familiar with a spirit feast, please find a few suggestions below to consider.



Traditional practices to remember when preparing feast goods:

- **Remember your family members who have walked on by preparing their home cooked favorite dish(es)**
- **Place a small amount of tobacco near you while cooking and bring along with you for the pipe ceremony**
- **No tasting food or using salt while cooking**
- **Bring your own dishes/silverware to eat on (preferably wooden)**

We hope you can join us. Megwetch!

Social Services To Implement a Healthy Families Project

Thanks to a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA), the Pokagon Band Department of Social Services is embarking on a three-year project to design and implement a family services program. The Band recognizes that too many of its families and children have been lost over the years to crisis and instability, produced by factors such as poverty, domestic violence, and alcohol and substance abuse. In order to address the problem of families in crisis and at-risk, in 2008-2009 the Pokagon Band Department of Social Services carried out a healthy families planning project with the support of an ANA-Native American Healthy Marriages Initiative Planning Grant. From those findings Resource Development along with the Department of Social Services developed the Pokagon Healthy Families Pilot Project.

The goal of the Pokagon Healthy Families Pilot Project is to develop and implement an effective family services program and make a real and positive impact in the cycle of family crisis and disintegration. Social Services plans to hire two full-time, degreed family services workers to develop a family services program. The Department of Social Services is excited for the project's potential to make a positive, measurable impact on the most serious problems facing Pokagon Band families. The grant funding will include culturally-competent strategies to foster healthy families and promote child well-being.

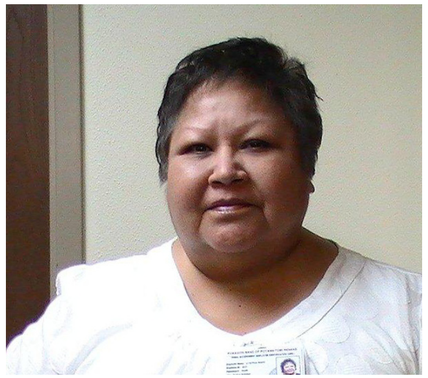
The family services worker and social services staff will periodically assess the program and adjust its approach as needed, with the objective of having a solid program at the end of three years that the Band can continue on a permanent basis.

"These grants involve a highly competitive application process, so we're proud that the Band earned the funding for this important program," said Mark Pompey, the Pokagon Band's director of social services.

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik Ogitchedaw Society

- Monthly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 at Elders Hall, 53237 Townhall Road, Dowagiac. All tribal veterans are welcome to participate in all events.
- Registration Forms are available for the Ogitchedaw Society. Upon completion and return of registration forms and proper documentation, you will receive a branch of service hat and an Ogitchedaw Shirt. To obtain a registration form please contact Butch Starrett, Veterans Committee Chairman, at:

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Administration Building
Attn. Butch Starrett
P.O. Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047



Elder of the Month: Cindy Rapp

My name is Cindy Rapp, and I'm the daughter of basket makers Mike and Aggie Rapp. I was born in Benton Harbor and have lived in Berrien County all my life. I grew up in Sodus and went to school at Eau Claire Public Schools.

After high school I worked in every factory around. I finally tried the medical field when I got a job with Berrien General Hospital in the obstetrics department I worked there for over twenty years. I've seen a lot of Berrien, Cass and Van Buren County have their babies. Somewhere in there (1979) I got married and had a baby boy, Bryan. He has a daughter, Bryanna, who is now six years-old and a cutie!

In October 2000, I decided to work for the Department of Health Services as a community health representative. The office was located downtown Dowagiac, and I loved it! I started meeting all the Pokagon Nishnabe people. As the health department developed the clinic, I decided to work in that area. Now after ten years, I'm still with health services. At the present time I'm working in optical and selling the N7 Nike shoes.

I am so proud to be a Pokagon Band elder and just can't believe how far the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians has come. Bamapii

Department of Language and Culture

Native Healing

DATE: WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 24-27 2010
TIME:9:00-12:00P.M.,1:00-5:00P.M.
LOCATION: TEACHING CABIN

Jake Pine will be in our community for Native healing and medicine teachings. Please call Andy Jackson to make an appointment.

Individual appointments Wednesday – Friday except Thursday afternoons during medicine walk (please bring tobacco).

Co-ed sweat lodge on Saturday morning.

CONTACT PERSON: ANDY JACKSON
OFFICE: 269-462-4261
CELL: 269-783-6198

Clarifying Contract Health Services

Pokagon Band Health Services Director Illuminates Transition to Managed Care

By Arthur L. Culpepper, PhD, FACHE

Serving as the Director of Health Services (DOHS) for the Pokagon Band for the past year has been an honor and a privilege. One of the greatest challenges I have faced as director in this economic climate is to use the Band's money wisely. That is why DOHS is currently working to meet national and industry standards with a managed care system. Managed care means to coordinate, rationalize, and channel the use of services to achieve desired access, service, and outcomes while controlling costs.

This 120-day shift to managed care, which will be complete February 8, 2011, has left many people anxious about whether DOHS will provide them with health care security for their families. Let me assure you: high-quality, efficient, effective health care is our top priority for the Band.

Health care spending is rising at a faster rate than family incomes in this country. This raises questions about how the Pokagon Band will pay for future health care needs. One thing citizens relied on in the past was the freedom to access health care services from the provider of their choice. Even though this approach benefited citizens individually, it did not benefit the Band as a whole. These practices were done outside the policies of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), at Title 42, Section 136.21 through 136.25, and Indian Health Services (IHS), Part 2, Chapter 3, "Contract Health Services (CHS)". In short, seeking health care options outside the program's guidelines not only costs the tribe money, but also put us at odds with federal regulations.

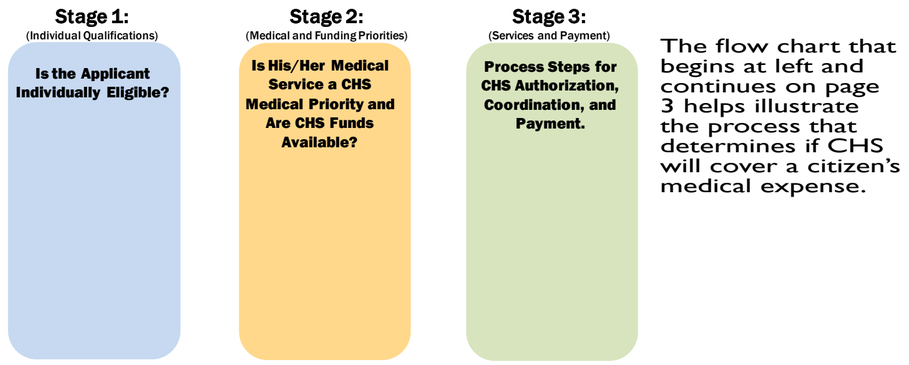
When our department uncovered this oversight, it became necessary to transition the way we do business to fit the rules of the CHS program. By operating within the established guidelines, IHS and other governmental parties will withdraw their protection of CHS. Having a managed care program is the main component to meet their standards.

During the past five years, our health costs have risen to 30 percent above current CHS funding levels. The IHS Annual Funding Agreement provides an average of $1.1 million in CHS funds each year. Expenditures of the Band, on the other hand, have averaged approximately $1.3 million annually. Following the established guidelines will allow us to not only be compliant with the rules, but will also put us back within budget.

Some feel that DOHS and its programs have fallen short in meeting all the needs required by its patients. We are working hard to assemble a team of professionals that can assess and assist citizens with their medical care decisions. We have added 11 new employees in the past year to meet this goal. We take very seriously feedback from citizens who are concerned that the Band's needs are not being met, or complaints regarding the judgment of our providers. We want to restore your confidence in the quality of care that DOHS provides.

In understanding our current concerns and issues, you can see that managed care will be adopted to control costs and keep us compliant with federal regulations. Few would argue that managed care can lead to better care by 1) eliminating treatments that are ineffective and are not medically necessary, 2) instituting more proactive treatments with regard to lifestyle changes, and 3) establishing high standards for screening and early detection.

The need to provide quality care for the citizens is undeniable, but should be done in manner that would not deplete the Band's financial resources or break federal regulations. Managing our health care dollars benefits everyone.



The flow chart that begins at left and continues on page 3 helps illustrate the process that determines if CHS will cover a citizen's medical expense.

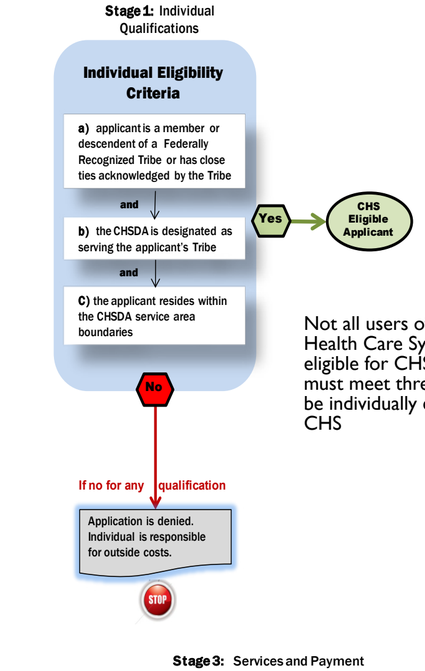
Native Nations Youth Council Visits Notre Dame University

Six Dowagiac Middle and High School students and two K-12 staff visited with four members of Native American Student Association at Notre Dame on Wednesday, October 13. A tour of two of the science buildings and dinner provided by the NASAND students made the evening both informative and enjoyable. While in the Jordan Hall of Science, we stepped into one of their largest lecture halls, viewed skeletons from many now extinct animals, and searched for the planets in the to-scale image of the galaxy that makes up the inlaid art on the floor of the main hall. The group also had the opportunity to talk with students researching ecological issues.

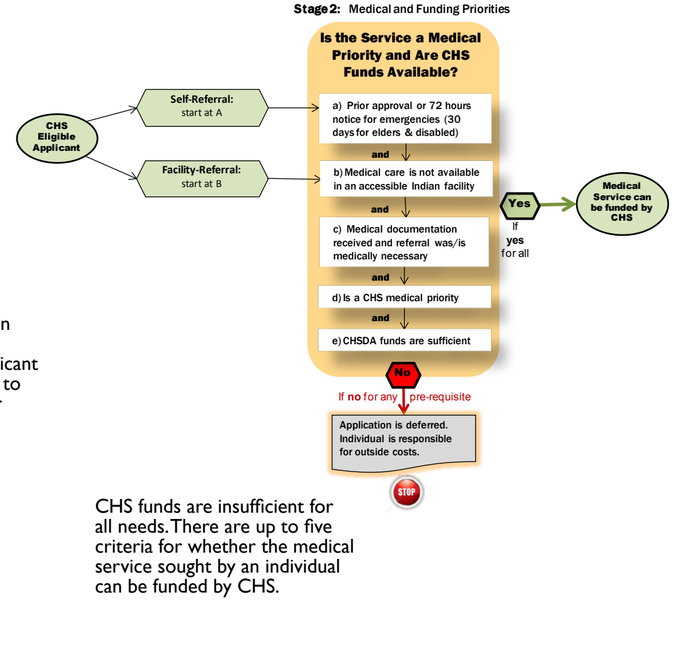
The visit impressed our students on several levels. A few had been on the campus before, either with their families or during the Notre Dame Enrichment Lab, but the size and scope of the campus still caught their attention. Comments made when we went in to the lecture hall pointed out how vast it is, how similar it is to a theatre, and the different resources available with projectors, smart boards, and multi-layered black boards. The importance of studying young and getting good grades, even in middle school, made sense to the children when they saw that a college education is serious work. And they discovered that it can also be a lot of exercise just getting back and forth to classes.

We will be returning to Notre Dame again on Wednesday, November 3 and 17, leaving the Dowagiac property at 4:30 and arriving back at 8:30. Other students may meet us there, as well. NASAND will be coming to the Rodgers Lake property on Saturday, December 4. The time for that meeting will be announced. Contact Connie Baber at 888-330-1234 with questions or to sign up to go.

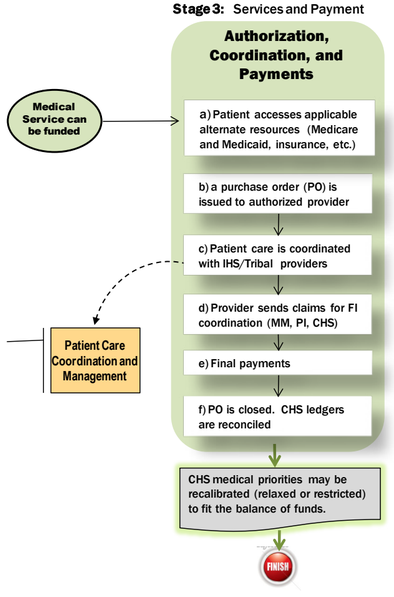
Overview of Steps to Determine If Contract Health Service Funds Can Pay for Referral Medical Care



Not all users of the Indian Health Care System are eligible for CHS. An applicant must meet three criteria to be individually eligible for CHS



CHS funds are insufficient for all needs. There are up to five criteria for whether the medical service sought by an individual can be funded by CHS.



After the applicant is determined CHS eligible and his/her medical service is determined to be a high CHS priority, several process steps remain before payment is issued.

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month

According to 2007 statistics from the American Diabetes Association, 23.6 million adults and children have diabetes in the United States, yet 5.7 million of these people are not diagnosed. If diabetes goes untreated it can lead to heart disease and stroke, high blood pressure, blindness, kidney disease, nervous system disease or amputation.

Some of the signs and symptoms to watch for are:

- Frequent trips to the bathroom
- Unquenchable or unusual thirst
- Losing weight without trying
- Weakness and fatigue
- Tingling or numbness in your hands, legs or feet
- Blurred vision
- Skin that is dry or itchy
- Frequent infections or cuts and bruises that take a long time to heal
- Extreme hunger
- Recurring skin, gum, or bladder infections

If you have any questions or any of the signs and symptoms listed above please contact our health office to schedule an appointment with one of our providers, Dr. Sherburn or Shirley Grassflower. We also have two registered nurses, a registered dietician and a pharmacist available in the clinic that can help with diabetes education. If you have questions and cannot make it into the clinic, one of our community health nurses or community health representatives can perform a home visit to evaluate your glucose and vital signs.

Attention College and College-Bound Students: Important FAFSA Information

In order to be considered eligible most financial aid opportunities including the Pokagon Higher Education Scholarship, you must file the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

You can file the FAFSA for the upcoming school year after January 1. Apply as early as you can. Please keep in mind:

- You must apply for every year you are in school
- While you cannot apply until January 1, you can apply for your PIN # anytime. You will need this PIN # to sign your application, and receiving the # early will save you time.
- Different states and institutions have different deadlines for state aid. Make sure you check with your school's financial aid office for deadlines.
- There is no cost to apply for the FAFSA. Be careful of organizations and websites that require you to pay to apply for the FAFSA.
- The official website to apply for the FAFSA is www.fafsa.ed.gov .

Need help in filling out the FAFSA? Some of the resources available are:

- Financial Aid office of your college
- Guidance office of your high school
- The College Goal Sunday website has information for each state on Sundays where local colleges host workshops to help in the FAFSA process. The website is www.collegegoalsundayusa.org
- Call the Pokagon Band Department of Education at 1-888-330-1234 for assistance. We have a computer lab available where students can check out online resources and file the FAFSA. Arrangements can be made by contacting Joseph Avance, Higher Education Specialist, to use the computer lab during non-business hours if necessary to accommodate your schedule.

Native Nations Youth Council

Open to all 7th-12th Grade
Pokagon Band Citizens

Wednesdays with Notre Dame students:
November 3 (5:30 - 7:30 pm)
November 17 (5:30 - 7:30 pm)

Transportation to and from Notre Dame is provided.
You must call to reserve a ride.

Saturday, December 4 at Rogers Lake
Time to be determined.
Pre-registration is required

Please contact Penny Brant
to pre-register or with any questions:

269-782-0887 or 888-330-1234
Cell 269-240-2359
Penny.Brant@PokagonBand-NSN.gov

Affecting the Health of Underserved Communities

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation is accepting applications for the 2011 Barbara Jordan Health Policy Scholars Program. This intensive summer program provides senior college or graduated college students an opportunity to work on policy issues in a Congressional office and to engage in original health policy research and analysis with a focus on issues affecting racial and ethnic minorities and underserved communities. Individuals with a graduate degree and those individuals currently enrolled in a graduate degree program are not eligible to participate. The deadline is 5 p.m. ET on Friday, December 3, 2010. Application materials and more information are available online at **www.kff.org/minorityhealth/bjscholars/bjsapplication.cfm.**

Students Urged to Research Online Degrees, Accredited Schools and Economic Tools

Online degrees seem like an affordable and convenient way to enhance your career. However, one should be careful about checking the school's type of accreditation and value or cost of education. It is important that the skills and the education you are seeking are marketable and whether they are in high-demand for your local economy.



An accredited school is one that is accredited by the U.S. Department of Education. If you go to their website, http://www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation/, you may find a list of schools. There are many accredited school programs which may give you the value of your education as well as work with your desire for convenience.

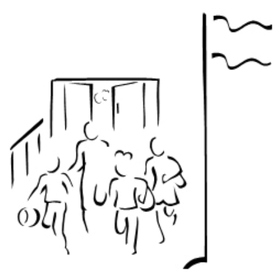
There are many economic online tools (provided by the Department of Labor programs), such as:

- Work One (http://www.goto-workone.com/home/index.asp),
- Michigan Works (http://www.michiganworks.com/) and (https://www.michworks.org/mtb/user/MTB_EMPL.EntryMainPage)
- O*Net (http://online.onetcenter.org/), and
- myskills, myfuture (http://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/)

These will help you choose the right career and tell you if that career is in high demand in your area or nationally.

It pays to research and plan your educational and career goals, so that you may have a reasonable view and a better understanding if you are receiving marketable skills and education.

Most tribal citizens may be eligible for the FAFSA (Pell grant), (www.fafsa.ed.gov), but you may be also eligible for the Pokagon Scholarships and/or other educational programs, such as the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, Vocational Scholarship (if not a traditional two-year degree), or Workforce Investment Act (WIA), which is based on income and location. Most of these forms are available for your convenience online at our website at www.PokagonBand-NSN.gov . If you have any questions, please contact the Pokagon Band Department of Education.



November Students of the Month

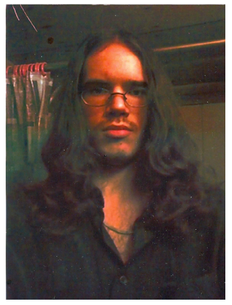
by Susan Doyle and Sue Johnson, Education Associates



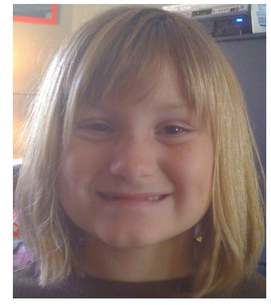
Sierra Binder is a fourth grader at Trinity Lutheran School in St. Joseph, MI. She enjoys playing the piano and drawing. Her favorite food is a cheeseburger. Sierra has been involved in the Pokagon Summer School experience and wants to be a meteorologist on television when she grows up. She is proud to be Native American because it makes her feel special to have the cultural traditions. Her parents are Gerhard and Dana Binder, her grandparents are Ronald and Theresa Sturgeon. She has one sister, Cheyenne, and two brothers, Sean and Josh.



Mikayla Pratt is a seventh grader at Byron Center West Middle School. She loves salad, dance, soccer, and hanging out with friends. Mikayla wants to be a lawyer someday. She has attended Pokagon Summer Camp and goes to many pow wows. Some things that make her proud to be Native American are "knowing that we were the first people in the USA, and knowing how close we are to our 'cousins'". Her parents are Wayne and Lisa Pratt, her grandparents are Forrest and Sharon (Wesaw) Pratt, and her great-grandparents are Thomas Nelson and Marian Wesaw. Mikayla has two sisters, Gabby and Denise, and two brothers, Ethan and Christian.



Shaun Tuten is a senior at Clay High School in South Bend, Indiana. He is the son of Penelope Tuten and the grandson of Gregory & Renda Ballew. He has a sister named Alexandra. He attends Pow Wows occasionally, votes in tribal issues, and he has also been involved with the tribal summer camp. He enjoys pizza without toppings, quesadillas, social networking, World of War Craft, and Star Craft. Someday he would like to have a career in computer repair and networking. He is proud to be Native American because he is a descendent of one of the many tribes that have survived the hardships in the making of the United States of America.



Gracie Wilkinson is entering the third grade at Kincheloe Elementary School in Dowagiac, Michigan. She is the daughter of Keith and Laura Wilkinson. She has five siblings: Nash, Shelby, Emma, Noah, and Lilah. Gracie's grandmas are Mary F. Marks from Waterford, Michigan and Patricia D. Klemm from Dowagiac, Michigan.

Gracie has been involved with Pokagon Band by attending summer camp, summer school, and the enrichment labs. Some of her favorite things are macaroni and cheese, Zhu Zhu pets, making cards, and racing the cross game at camp. Someday she would like to be a librarian or a teacher. Gracie is proud to be Native American because she has the opportunity to learn and pass on the culture. She also is proud that her grandma Pat is an Elder.

ELDERS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
October 7, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:19 a.m.
INVOCATION: Clarence White.
ROLL CALL: Margaret Rapp, P, Ken Radar, P, Clarence White, P, Audrey Huston, P.
Also in attendance, Yvonne (Petey) Boehm, Lynn Davidson.

AGENDA: MIEA delegates were chosen, the voting was Petey Boehm, Bonnie Parrish, and the alternate was Evelyn Miller. Their term will end in 2012. Matt Wesaw informed us of the death of one our Council Members husband, Alice Overly our thoughts and prayers go out to Alice and her family.
He also thanked all who attended the dedication ceremonies for the administration building and the Community Center. He would like to see us spend more of the budget money allotted to us.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Bonnie Parrish gave a report on NICOA and MIEA. The new representative for NICOA is Donna Summers. Next year's MIEA meetings will be held in April at Sault St Marie, July's meeting will be held in Traverse City, October's meeting will be held in Manistee.
Petey would like some volunteers to be Elder of the Month. Contact her at 1-800-859-2712.

MINUTES: The September minutes were read, Ken moved to accept the minutes as read, Clarence supported, (4) yes, approved.

TREASURERS REPORT: Clarence gave the treasurers report, Ken moved to accept, Margaret supported, (4) yes, approved.

NEW BUSINESS:
OLD BUSINESS: A trip is planned for December. Please see the information at right. Matt Wesaw informed us that a smaller bus is being looked into. The bus would probably seat 32 people.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Language classes are held every Monday at Elders Hall, 11:00 am – 12:00pm.
Active Living classes are held every Friday morning at Elders Hall.
Basket making will start November 10, 2010, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:
Jeanne Mollett, Ollie Shaer, Lee Salvidar, Ruth Salvidar.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES:
Gar and Majel DeMarsh.

ADJOURNMENT: Clarence moved to adjourn. Audrey supported, (3) yes, (1) absent. Adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Elders and Spouses:

Interested in a two-night trip to Frankenmuth, Michigan December 6 through 8? The bus will depart from the Dowagiac train depot at 8 a.m. and we will spend the day in Frankenmuth, then depart for Mt. Pleasant in the evening.

Call (800) 859-2717 starting November 16 at 9 a.m. to make reservations. No early calls, please!

Pokagon Promise Committee Working on Promoting Nishnabe Culture

By Thomas W Topash, Tribal Council member-at-large

Greetings.
Senajiwan Ndeshnekaws- My name is Sen ah' dgee wan
Gigo Ododem- I am a Fish clan member.
Pokegenek Bodowadamee- I am of the Pokagon Potawatomi

(My Potawatomi spelling may look odd. However, several different styles exist today. It would be good to fix that someday.)

My English name is Tom. I am Senajiwan as I say above in the traditional Potawatomi self-introduction. My last name is Topash, Miami for sweat(lodge). I am your newest Tribal Council member. I was elected this past August. Occasionally I will include an article in the newsletter which talks about the Pokagon Promise and topics of cultural interest.

The Pokagon Promise committee was established three years ago with an intent to keep the Pokagons moving toward a direction of our commonality; namely our culture. Culture is viewed as something kids study in school. In fact it is the way we live, talk, think, behave and grow. I believe in the goals of Leopold Pokagon who thought we were just as capable and industrious as the pioneers that surrounded our village. He knew we could respect the methods and culture of each way. He knew we could achieve education and industry goals in an Indian way. He was right.

So what is the Pokagon Promise? It is all the services of our Tribal government working together to educate, assure good health and protect each and every citizen and doing so in a Nishnabe (Native American) way. Here is my view of how you build community in a Nishnabe way.

Except for certain jobs that required separation of age, like hunting, Pokagon Nishnabe did things with the whole family around. I see the Tribe growing to the point that every Saturday is a Super Saturday which means we bring our whole families to Rogers Lake (or the Community Center for starters) for doings.

Every department will participate in this weekly gathering. There will be basketball in the gym, regalia making in the craft room, youth doing medicine plant gardening in the arboretum, tax preparation training, tutoring, wellness services everywhere and as many more opportunities and options as your imagination can create! These events, be they weekly or some other configuration, would naturally include potluck feasts which would celebrate ancestors, coming of age for youth, birthdays, the ending of fast time, or ending of a year of mourning. Leopold understood culture; ours and the majority society. He knew we could thrive by educating ourselves with our culture in mind; the driving force. Leopold even outdid the surrounding community in the white concept of farming. This was a slam-dunk because we already farmed but now used their farm tools for massive single crop acreage and man/horse power instead of small multiple crop gardens. We cultivated hundreds of acres, hiring the pioneers much of the time.

Enough on this topic today. Please call or email me with your thoughts on the Pokagon Promise. I will respond. My contact information is on the back of this newsletter.

Time to Show Off Your Vast Knowledge!

K-12 Jeopardy

Pokagon Band Department of Education Presents
Family Trivia Night
Wednesday, November 10th at 6 p.m.

Join us at the Department of Education Library for Trivia Night. This is a great opportunity to meet other families, have fun, win prizes, and enjoy some quality family time.

- Teams consist of 2 to 5 players (including at least one K-12 program participant)
- Trivia questions will be asked from a variety of categories
- Prizes will be awarded to our winners
- Dinner and drinks will be provided to all participants

For a dinner count, please RSVP to the Department of Education by calling (269-782-0887) or email Connie Baber (connie.baber@pokagonband-nsn.gov)

South Bend Area Office Schedule

Mondays: Housing staff will be available to provide information on housing programs.

1st Tuesday of the month: Health Services social worker
2nd Tuesday of the month: Contract Health Services processor
3rd Tuesday of the month: Community Health Nurse
4th Tuesday of the month: Community Health Representative
Each Tuesday: Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, foot care, diabetes management and prevention by appointment.

Wednesdays: Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and Workforce Investment Act applications.

Fridays: Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the daycare program will be available.

Pow-Wow Committee Announces Annual Design Contest

The KeeBoonMeinKaa Pow Wow committee is once again hosting a graphic design contest in honor of the 2011 Labor Day weekend pow wow held at Rodgers Lake. The winning design will be used on the t-shirts, event flyer and program cover. The artist who creates the winning design will be awarded $250 from the pow-wow committee! Please send PDF images to Micky at Michaelina.magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov by Wednesday, December 15, 2010. The committee looks forward to many great designs!

AA/NA Meetings
Tuesday nights 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Friday nights 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Health Services building II
Use the side door for entry.

Native Foster Parents Needed

Our traditions tell us the most sacred beings among our Anishnabe people are our children and our Elders. Our children have just come from being with the Creator in the Spirit World, and our Elders are facing the West on their way to the Spirit World to be with the Creator again.

As a Tribal nation, we recognize our responsibility "to provide for the welfare, care and protection of the children," through our Child Protection Code. "The care and custody of the Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, as such the welfare of its children is of paramount importance to the Band" says our Family Welfare Commission Ordinance.

There are no words in the Potawatomi language for the term "foster parents." Native people have had to adapt, and the use of this term is now a necessity. Sometimes within our family framework there is turmoil and our children suffer. Some of our children need care and protection. Do you have in your spirit and your home a place for a child who needs a temporary family? Have you ever thought about being a foster parent?

We realize you will have many questions about foster parenting and we urge you to contact our Social Services Department at (269) 782-8998 and ask for Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, our Indian Child Welfare Worker.

Department of Language and Culture Up and Running

With the addition of Teresa Magnuson as the director, the Pokagon Band's new Department of Language and Culture is beginning its work. Magnuson started in her role in September, and with her staff and citizens' input, is helping guide the promotion and preservation of Potawatomi language, culture and history.

"We're planning such events as language classes, cultural events and quarterly community wellness gatherings to help fulfill the department's mission," said Magnuson. "Some of the upcoming events that we are working on are regalia making, drumming, and dancing classes and seasonal teaching gatherings."

In addition to the director, the department is made up of two staff members: Andy Jackson, the cultural specialist and Mike Zimmerman Jr., the tribal historic preservation officer. The department's offices are located on the first floor of the Edwards Street building, along with the Department of Natural Resources.

Magnuson comes to the Band after serving for a year as the career development specialist in the Tribal Development Program at Four Winds Casino Resort. There she helped tribal employees identify their personal and professional goals and create opportunities to reach those goals. She holds a masters degree in Higher, Adult, and Lifelong Education and a bachelors in science in sociology from Michigan State University. In 2001, she graduated from the Anishnaabemowin Language & Instructors Institute at Bay Mills Community College with a certificate in Anishnaabe Language Instruction. During her graduate studies, Magnuson traveled to New Zealand, Hawaii, and England and throughout the U.S. and Canada studying indigenous language programs and gathering best practices for teaching and learning strategies.

"My career is driven by the desire to contribute to indigenous language preservation and revitalization efforts," she said.

The department plans to work with other government departments to find ways to incorporate language and culture into their work, and discover how language and culture can support other departments and staff. Language and culture will be soon sending out a survey to citizens asking for input in programming, and welcomes calls or e-mails from citizens with questions or suggestions. They can be reached at: (269) 462-4296 or Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov.

Department of Language and Culture
November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 *Elder's Language Class*	2	3	4 *Pokagon Language Learners Table*	5 *Community Wellness In-Service (Staff Only)*	6 *Community Wellness Event*
7	8 *Elder's Language Class*	9	10	11 *Veteran's Day (Office Closed—No class)*	12	13 *Fall Spirit Feast*
14	15 *Elder's Language Class*	16	17	18 *Pokagon Language Learners Table*	19	20
21	22 *Elder's Language Class*	23	24 *Native Healing; Women's Hand Drumming*	25 *Native Healing; Pokagon Language Learners Table*	26 *Native Healing*	27 *Co-ed Sweat Lodge*
28	29 *Traditions & Repatriation Committee's Meeting; Elder's Language Class*	30				

Elder's Language Class – Elder's Hall, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Pokagon Language Learners Table – Admin. Bldg., Finance Conference Rm., 6:00 – 8:00pm
Community Wellness In-Service – Love Creek Nature Center, 1:00-4:00pm
Community Wellness Event – Love Creek Nature, 8:30am -5:00pm
Fall Spirit Feast – Tribal Lodge Pavilion, 6:00 – 8:00pm
Native Healing – Teaching Cabin, 9:00am-12:00pm, 1:00pm-5:00pm
Women's Hand Drumming – TBA, 6:00-8:00pm
Co-ed Sweat – Teaching Cabin, 8:00-10:00am
Traditions and Repatriation Committee's Meeting – Admin. Bldg., Finance Conference Rm., 6:00-9:00pm

Per Capita News

The following list of citizens have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office for Per Capita payment distribution and 2009 Christmas checks. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band enrollment office to verify the address.

3282 Daniel Sanderson
0083 John Dylan Watson
0406 Michael Lynn Hewitt
0433 Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
0434 Thomas Charles Abercrombie
0857 Peter John Ramirez
1445 Michael David Bush
1446 Bobby Marcus Haynes
1506 Michaela Lynne Canard
2795 Edward F Cushway
2805 Isabel Marie Campos

The following list of citizens have not contacted the enrollment office to verify their valid addresses to receive their 2009 Christmas checks.

BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
IAN THOMAS CURREY
PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

From the Tribal Chairman

Before I get into the follow-up to my last article I would like to pass on my sincerest sympathy to council member Alice Overly and her family in the passing of her husband David. Alice often talked about her best friend and husband, and I know this will be a very difficult time. We have to recognize and trust the Creator for the decisions he makes for us. We are there for you, Alice.

I would like to compliment our Communications Director Paige Risser, who orchestrated two events this past month on behalf of Tribal Council. First we held a blessing for the new administration building and then a delayed ground breaking ceremony for the new community center. Both events were well attended by tribal citizens and media. She also invited several dignitaries, local, state, and federal which gave us a real opportunity to showcase what the tribe has accomplished over the past several years. Paige is doing a fine job in helping us get out our story. Council is eagerly looking to the future and our improved communications with everyone. I say thanks to Clarence White for his pipe ceremony and all that he does for the tribe. His teachings in the spiritual, cultural, and traditional areas show his leadership and are greatly appreciated.

In my previous article I provided a review of what council has worked on this past year in relation to the commitments that I felt were important to council. Before I finish that review I would like to make the following observation and comment. In the dark days of the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln made a statement that I think we can recall today. He said, "There is not an army in the world great enough to put a footprint on our shores, or drink from our rivers. If death is to come to the Union, it will come from within."

I think Lincoln's quote can be related to what we are going through currently. We are not at war, but we are in a situation where many changes are occurring as a result of our ability to grow. When you look at our history, we have survived a multitude of attempts, both purposeful and unintentional, on our governmental existence, and we still survived and now are flourishing. The only army that can defeat us is ourselves. If we could spend less energy on the negative and use that same energy to promote positive growth and ideas, we will flourish even more, and faster. The decision lies with us and we have only ourselves to blame if we fail. Now to finish the review.

Our casino is doing very well in spite of difficult economic conditions. I do not support the expansion of satellite casinos at this time. We have not completed our due diligence, nor have we talked as a body to fully understand the impact on the community by adding millions of dollars of additional debt to the $400 million we already owe. I do support a calculated, well planned expansion of Four Winds. I believe we have a responsibility to make Four Winds the Casino Resort destination that we advertise. We must protect our market share and I think we can expand without negatively impacting our ability to provide additional and improved services to our citizens. I will work with Council to make a sound decision on potential casino expansion and communicate this to our citizens. This will include a complete discussion of a debt reduction plan.

Council has taken a very deliberate and conservation approach to completing the due diligence before making a decision. By now everyone is aware of the direction council is taking. I have heard many concerns expressed and many of us on council have expressed many of the same concerns with our advisors and partners. I will say that to this day council is still comfortable with the direction we are heading. Our deliberate approach has worked well for us and timing continues to save us money. I strongly believe when we are done, our citizens will be happy with the decisions we have made. One of the best outcomes is the fact we are on track to be debt free in seven to nine years after refinancing. This is much quicker than anyone expected. I credit council with remaining firm that this be part of the total plan.

We need to become more politically involved utilizing our citizens. This involvement needs to be direct and focused on our interests not only in Michigan and Indiana, but Washington, DC as well. While we have lobbyists working for us, we have not always provided proactive direction. We need to get our citizens appointed to political positions in government to further assist us in the future.

We are well on our way to getting our first appointment in Indiana. I expect that to occur any day. We still need to focus on utilizing our lobbyists to their full capabilities. Unfortunately, with an agenda that is full and with only a part time council, focusing on everything we have to do create circumstances where we fall short and fail to provide the proper attention to all details. We are working on this and we will get better.

I will suggest the Finance Board add a line item in each budget to deal with emergencies, including a definition.

Directors are now building into their budgets resources for emergencies. Directors are developing programs that will be a benefit to all our citizens. Our citizens will continue to see improvement in this area. I would encourage anyone who is having difficulty to contact the appropriate department to see what programs are available.

I would like to see Council support a separate education facility where our non-traditional students can attend in person or by remote acceses to gain their G.E.D. or to work them back into the educational mainstream. We must also address the need for vocational training. I believe our local colleges would be more than willing to partner with us to make this happen. We need to expand on what we have accomplished thus far. There is no training available for many of the technical needs of the casino.

The need for a separate facility is becoming apparent. There have been some discussions on this topic. Ideas and designs are being explored by the education department staff. We have improved our programs for our citizens in higher education. We now have to spend time and effort developing improvements for those who have not reached that level yet. Council is supportive of this direction and I believe our citizens will see significant improvements in the near future.

Develop a community center with recreational and fitness opportunities.

Ground has been broken and this building should be completed early next year.

I will encourage Council to develop a jobs bank for our citizens. We have people who may not qualify for jobs at the casino. I believe we can create a jobs bank to provide work for citizens of our Band so that they can provide for their families with meaningful employment.

This is on the list for programs that our human resource department is charged with developing. There have been several discussions on this topic, but as you can imagine, creating any job in this economy is tough, but council is committed to this program. The H.R. department has developed the outline of an apprenticship program that will include some of those who are described as hard to employ. Council isn't pleased with the past agreement with the unions in the building of Four Winds and by developing a program that we administer, we will have greater control. Several meetings have been held with local, state, and federal officials as well as the local community college. This is an exciting program and I believe will provide great benefits to those who want to prepare for a career. This will not be limited to just construction type jobs, but will expanded to cover a multitude of professions.

I encourage council to consider a job retention and rehabilitation program for our citizens. We started out with over 260 tribal citizens working at the casino. We now have 130. Why? We need to determine how we can help and get our citizens back to work, including tribal government positions.

This is also a primary concern for council. We see goods things being done by the casino and we haven't taken the steps to duplicate or build off from what they have done. Recent discussions have been held and I think you will see some programs in this area.

The constitution outlines the responsibility of the Tribal Chairman. Although we have not passed the Tribal Council Procedures Act, Council has been following the language in the Act. Between these two documents, the position of Chairman is directly responsible for the Council meeting agenda and determining the direction of Tribal Council. This is where I believe we have lost focus. I believe we have failed to act in a timely manner on many items due to lack of direction. Several which are listed below:

- *The Ethics Code has been approved, but the Ethics Board has not been appointed to enforce the Code. Basically it is a toothless document.* (The Board has been appointed.)
- *A Whistle Blowers Protection Act has not been approved.* (The amendment that was offered was not approved by council. A new amendment may be offered in the future.)
- *The tribe is not in full compliance with Article IV of the constitution.*



This has been noted at meetings. (This being addressed and monitored by the DNR.)

- *It has been one year since an issue surfaced regarding the health clinic and it is still not completely resolved.* (There has been an extreme amount of work done in this area and our citizens should be very proud of the accomplishments. As a result of issues in the Aberdeen area there will be a Congressional investigation into all of the native health regions. With the steps that we have taken we will be ready for this review and I think we will be found to be in almost complete compliance. The Director and his staff deserve credit for identifying and correcting our deficiencies.)
- *The Tribal Council and Procedures Act have not been approved yet.* (Completed)
- *The federal government has extended the Adam Walsh Act. Council was not prepared for it even though we had over 18 months to decide how we wanted to handle this mandate by the United States Congress.* (Due to changes at the federal level, this is still being developed by legal)
- *The same issue exists with the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative. Implementation has been extended but we have not decided how we want to comply with Homeland Security's directive. This can have a very negative impact on our citizens who travel across borders.* (Not completed and unacceptable. This will be addressed.)
- *The Committee Handbook has been ignored until recently.* (Completed and approved)
- *A plan to develop government infrastructure, improve programs, develop new programs has not been an agenda item.* (This is a regular item of discussion with council and our directors. Council has approved a company to come in and do a complete review of our programs and government structure. This will help us become more efficient and better serve our citizens.)
- *The position of tribal chairman is required by the constitution to represent the citizens of the Band. I will fully accept that responsibility and will make it a priority. I will continue to be active in local, state, and federal activities representing the Band. I will continue to work closely with other Native American Tribal leaders. I will be a full time chairman working for the tribal government. I will be in the tribal office every day unless I'm required to be out. I will not spend a part of each day at the casino unless there is a meeting I am required to attend. I will suggest to Council that we rotate appointments to the various boards and commissions that we participate in to allow all council members an opportunity to experience our full government involvement.*

This is being done and I remain committed to representing the citizens of the tribe. This council has been very diligent in putting the interests of the citizens first and doing everything we can in breaking the cycle of dependency. I am very proud to work with them.

I will, in the first year, submit a report on the progress for each of the issues outlined. I will also request that Tribal Council have our legal department review ordinances/policy that have been passed and issues have developed indicating the potential for possible amendments. For example, I believe the Open Meetings Act, and the Ethics Code need to be amended, to name just two. We have others that need to be adjusted to better meet the needs of our citizens.

Ethics code has been amended and will provide less regulation to government employment and increase the time frame to move from an elected position to employment by the casino.

I will also request that Council join me in reviewing services provided to our citizens. I would like us to focus on improvements and additional services. We need to make sure that the services we provide are open and available to every citizen regardless of where they live. I would also like Council to revisit the by-laws of the Pokagon Fund. I would like to reconsider how we determine the use of the 10% that is discretionary spending by our appointed Board members.

This is being done regularly.

This completes the review of what council has accomplished this past year. As you can see it has been a very busy year, but there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done. Council has been focused and committed to working for the best interests of our citizens. We understand we are not going to please everyone, but through our efforts we hope to improve the quality of life for our people.

In closing, please continue to remember our veterans and those currently serving. The freedoms we enjoy are a direct result of their sacrifice. As always, my phone is on and my door is open. If you are in the area please stop in and say hi.

Matt

Family Welfare Commission Looking to Fill Open Positions

The Pokagon Band is seeking applications from Pokagon Band members interested in serving on the Pokagon Band Family Welfare Commission. There are currently three open seats on the five member Commission. In order to protect the best interests of our children, the Pokagon Band Tribal Council formed the Family Welfare Commission by adoption of the Family Welfare Commission Ordinance on November 6, 2001. The Commission was designed not only to protect the best interests of Pokagon Band children, but also to: Promote the stability and security of Pokagon Band families; Recommend to the judicial and administrative agencies involved, a course of action for the guidance and care of Pokagon Band children which most preserves the unity of the family; Recommend actions that will best serve the cultural, spiritual, emotional, mental and physical welfare of the child; Recommend a continuum of services for Pokagon Band children and their families with emphasis whenever possible on prevention, early intervention, and community based alternatives; Recognize and acknowledge the cultural traditions of the Pokagon Band for child-rearing and family preservation. The Commission meets approximately once each month at Elders Hall, depending on the needs of the Commission, and meets at additional times as may be needed to address other specific matters. Family Welfare Commission members typically spend several additional hours per month preparing for Commission meetings or engaged in other Commission activities. The Family Welfare Commission Ordinance is available at the following internet address: http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm.

Family Welfare Commissioners are compensated as independent contractors in the amount of $75 for attending each Family Welfare Commission meeting. In addition, Commission members are entitled to reimbursement for mileage when using personal vehicles to attend meetings and for other Family Welfare Commission business.

Qualifications of Commissioners

A. A Commissioner may not also be a member of Tribal Council.

B. An individual considered for appointment must be an enrolled Tribal member, at least 18 years of age, with knowledge and experience demonstrated through educational, occupational or volunteer activities in the following areas:

1. childhood education;
2. childhood development;
3. Pokagon Band or other tribal customs and traditions pertaining to child rearing;
4. governmental and private programs to assist children and families in need; and
5. individual and family dysfunction, the types, causes, and treatment.

C. Neither an employee nor the spouse of an employee of the Band or of the federal government, or a state or local government, who is involved with or possibly involved with the delivery of services relating to child welfare matters within the scope of the Commission duties and authority may be appointed or serve as a Commissioner.

D. Immediate family members, as defined in the Pokagon Band Child Protection Code, of any family may not serve simultaneously on the Commission.

Requirements for Appointment to the Commission

A. Commissioners must sign and abide by a statement acknowledging the standards of confidentiality required for serving as a Commissioner.

B. Commissioners must submit to and pass a background check conducted by the Tribal Police Department subject to such written guidelines or procedures as may be established by the Tribal Police Department. The background check serves the purpose of assisting the Tribal Council in determining whether a prospective Commissioner could pose any risk to the safety or welfare of a child or may otherwise be unsuitable for appointment to the Commission. The background check shall include, but not necessarily be limited to the Commissioner's criminal history, including any arrest record and history of investigation by State Systems for suspected child abuse or neglect. A background check shall be conducted prior to the appointment or re-appointment of every Commissioner.

C. Every Commissioner shall be of good character and reputation, shall not associate with dishonest or disreputable persons, and shall exhibit high moral standards at all times.

Appointment Process Appointments to the Family Welfare Commission are made by the Tribal Council. Each Commissioner shall serve a term of three (3) years.

How to Apply

Contact the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777 to obtain an application. Please submit a completed application to:
Mark Pompey, Director
Pokagon Band Department of Social Services
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, Michigan 49047

Questions concerning the Family Welfare Commission may be directed to the Director of Social Services, Mark Pompey, at 800-517-0777 or mark.pompey@PokagonBand-NSN.gov.
Note: Posting to be removed by November 2010.

Ethics Requirements

As Public Officials, Family Welfare Commissioners are subject to the Pokagon Band Code of Ethics. A copy of the Code of Ethics may be obtained from the Band's website at http://www.pokagonband-nsn.gov/government.htm or by contacting Mark Pompey at the Department of Social Services at 800-517-0777.



Citizens came out to Rogers Lake September 18 to celebrate the Band's sovereignty during Reaffirmation Day. A feast, giveaways and many cultural activities, including beading practice, at right, kept attendees busy.

Art Review Committee Seeks Members

The Pokagon Gaming Authority seeks to assure a superior job of selecting artwork for the Four Winds Casino Resort gift shop. All art displays should represent the excellence of Pokagon artists.

At this time a subcommittee of the Gaming Authority made up of Michaelina Magnuson, Tom Topash and Steve Winchester is in the process of overseeing an important task: to establish a review committee of artists to make selections for items to be sold in the gift shop. This review committee will be impartial. In order to remain ethical, the art review committee members may not participate in selling work in the casino gift shop during the time they serve on the review committee. The Art Review Committee is eligible for compensation and mileage reimbursement as included in the committee procedures handbook, approximately $75 per meeting.

If interested in serving on the art review committee or would like to see the committee guidelines, please send a letter of interest to Steve Winchester at Steve.Winchester@PokagonBand-nsn.gov by Monday, November 22. Please be sure to include your name, phone, tribal ID number and email address. We hope to have committee members selected and appointed by late November so that an initial meeting can occur in early December, in time for the holidays.

Tribal Council **November** Calendar of Events

1 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
2 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
8 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
9 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
13 Tribal Council Citizen Meeting, 10 a.m., Lodge
15 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
16 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
29 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
30 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov or call 1-888-782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Tribal Council Directory

Chairman
Matthew Wesaw
517-719-5579 or 574-591-9806
Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Vice-chairman
Butch Starrett
269-591-2901
Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov

At Large Members
Steve Winchester
269-591-0119
Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Michaelina Magnuson
269-591-5616
Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

John Warren
269-214-2610
John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Tom Topash
269-470-3745
Tom.Topash@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Alice Overly
269-240-8041
Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Marie Manley
269-214-2609
Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Treasurer
Troland Clay
269-591-5205
Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Secretary
Faye Wesaw
269-782-1864
Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Lynn Davidson, Elders Representative
269-240-8092
Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary
269-591-0604
Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Council Lodge Phone: 1-888-376-9988

Tribal Office Directory

Tribal Council
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-6323 /
Toll Free (888) 376-9988
FAX (269) 782-9625

Elders Program
53237 Townhall Rd.
(269) 782-0765 /
Toll Free (800) 859-2717
FAX (269) 782-1696

Administration Information Technology
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-6882

Social Services
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-4295

Health Services / Behavioral Health
57392 M 51 South
(269) 782-4141 /
Toll Free (888) 440-1234
FAX (269) 782 - 8797

Natural Resources
32142 Edwards St.
(269) 782-9602 Phone
(269) 783-0452 Fax

Education and Training
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-0887/
FAX (269) 782-0985

Finance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998 /
Toll Free (800) 517-0777
FAX (269) 782-1028

Enrollment
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-1763 /
FAX (269) 782-1964

Commodities
(269) 782-3372 /
Toll Free (888) 281-1111
FAX (269)782-7814

Head Start
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0026/
(866)-250-6573
FAX (269) 782-9795

South Bend Area Office
310 W. Mc Kinley Ave. Suite 300
Mishawaka, IN. 46545
(574)-255-2368 /
Toll Free (800) 737-9223
FAX (574) 255-2974

Housing
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0443 /
FAX (269) 783-0452

Tribal Court
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 783-0505 /
FAX (269) 783-0519

Tribal Police
58155 M-51 South
(269) 782-2232 /
Toll Free (866-399-0161)
FAX (269) 782-7988

Election
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-9475 /
Toll Free (888) 782-9475

Human Resources / Compliance
58620 Sink Rd.
(269) 782-8998

Making an Unexpected Windfall Work for You

Are you expecting a large sum of money anytime soon? From time to time most of us can look forward to receiving a lump sum of money—whether it is from a tax refund, bonus check**,** quarterly per capita check, settlement, an inheritance or something else. If so, now is a great time to stop, think and plan in order to make the most of the windfall. First of all, before you start committing any of the expected money, confirm that the money is indeed a sure thing. Remember the old saying, "Don't count your chickens before they hatch," so as to avoid spending money you may not receive.

In planning here are some helpful suggestions:

Prioritize your bills. Take care of essentials first. Pay those creditors first who can do you the most harm: pay your rent/mortgage so you won't get evicted/foreclosed. Pay your utilities so they don't get disconnected. Pay your car note so your vehicle doesn't get repossessed. If possible, pay off any rent-to-own purchases and any pay day loans, which could be charging you up to 400% interest.

Consider paying down debt.

Make sure your insurance premiums are current on your home and car. If you're renting, get renter's insurance to insure loss of property from inside your apartment.



Stash some money away in a savings account. Emergencies are a fact of life, so it's wise to save for a rainy day. If you don't have a savings account, do yourself a favor and open one. You can start a saving habit even if you've never been a saver before!

Invest in a savings bond or other investment product and watch your money grow.

Track your spending. You cannot manage what you do not measure.

These steps can help improve your credit score, which down the road could save you you big bucks in lower interest rates on future purchases. Remember: Native people have always saved, planned for the future and set aside resources when things were plentiful. Nowadays of course the planning is done with currency rather than the natural resources like back in the day.

For more tips on how to stretch and your dollars and grow your savings, email Valerie.Janowski@pokagonband-nsn.gov or attend an upcoming workshop series and receive a $100 gift card upon completion.



Recent graduates of the Financial Empowerment workshops: above from left: Lee & Ruthie Saldivar (Buchanan), Andrea Yount, Rhonda Keene (Dowagiac), Tonya Payne (Watervliet), Jasmine Clark, & Scott Hoadley (Buchanan). Below left, front row from left: Susan Laursen (Dowagiac), Gary Morseau (South Bend), Micky Magnuson (Eau Claire), Mike Zimmerman Jr. (Niles), Dawn Mendoza (Dowagiac), Tim Solloway (Niles), Gary Beavers (Buchanan), Tricia Solloway (Niles), Ashlee Beavers (Niles), Bob Kronewitter & Faith Johnson (both Niles). All received a $100 gift card for attending six hours of training to hone personal financial management skills. Congratulations to all!

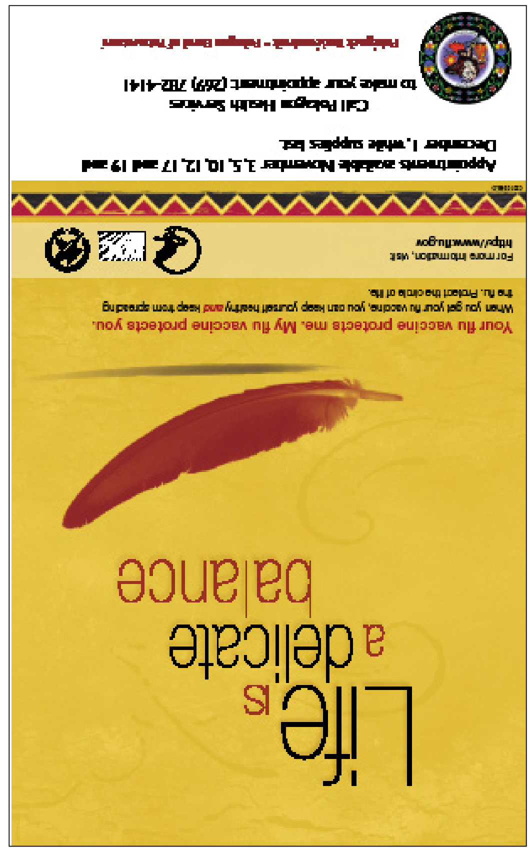
Elder's Lunch Menu

Please call the day before if you are not a regular attendee for meals
Meals subject to change 269-782-0765 or 800-859-2717 Meal Service Begins @ 12:00 Noon

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Language Buffalo Tacos W/ Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Beans, & Cheese Pineapple Upside Down Cake Melon Salad	2 Chicken Stir Fry W/ Fresh Veggies/ Brown Rice Tossed Salad Fortune Cookie Roll Jell-O W/ Fruit	3 Pork Roast Red Potatoes & Rutabaga Carrots Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad Apple Crisp Roll	4 Business Salmon Patties Sweet Potatoes Collard Greens Garden Salad Fruit / Cake Roll	5 Butternut Squash Brisket Soup Low Sodium Sliced Turkey Sandwich W/ Lettuce & Tomato Fruit Salad Relish Tray
8 Language Baked Chicken Potato Wedges Brussels Sprouts Tomato Salad Fruit Roll	9 Pork Loin Red Skin Potato Salad Broccoli Yogurt W/ Fruit Roll	10 Turkey Goulash W/ Kidney Beans Garden Salad Blueberry Crisp Garlic Bread Italian Ice	11 Closed Veteran's Day	12 Sea Bass Rice Pilaf Veggie Kabobs Strawberry Cheesecake Cup Roll
15 Language Beef Kabobs Spanish Rice Green Beans Cottage Cheese W/ Peaches Roll	16 Fish Sandwich on a Bun Roasted Garlic Tomato Soup Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad Fruit Tray	17 Buffalo Stroganoff W/ Noodles Butternut Squash Red Coleslaw Lime Jell-O W/ Pears Roll	18 Social Sliced Turkey W/ Gravy Mashed Potatoes & Dressing Cauliflower, Broccoli, & Carrots Cucumbers & Onions/ Roll Pumpkin Pie/ Cranberries	19 Pork Chops Baked Potato Brussels Sprouts Apple Crisp Roll
22 Language Buffalo Meatballs W/ Noodles and Gravy Spinach Tossed Salad Mandarin Oranges Roll	23 Turkey Pot Pie Veggie Kabobs Waldorf Salad Roll	24 Beef Manhattan Mashed Potatoes W/ Gravy Garden Salad Broccoli Fruit Salad Roll	25 Closed Thanksgiving	26 Closed Thanksgiving
29 Language Salmon and Potato Dish Green Beans Tomato Salad Strawberry Angel Food Cake Roll	30 Buffalo Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Carrots and Peas Cucumber Salad Fruit Cup/ Roll			Note: milk, tea, coffee, water, & Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, pickles, and onion served with sandwiches and burgers.

Tobacco Sales

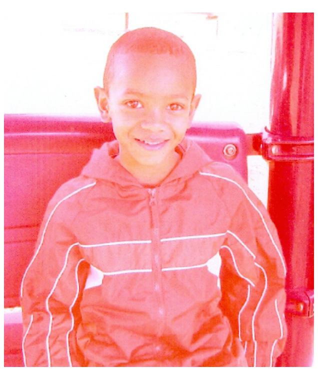
Cigarettes are sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We sell Basic, Marlboro, and Newport brands and a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston. Sales are handled by the receptionist Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. You must be 18 years old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. Maximum of five cartons per month per tribal citizen**.** Credit cards accepted.



Pokégnek Bodéwadmik • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Administrative Office
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047



Happy birthday, Mom
Konnie Birks
From,
The Four Horsemen

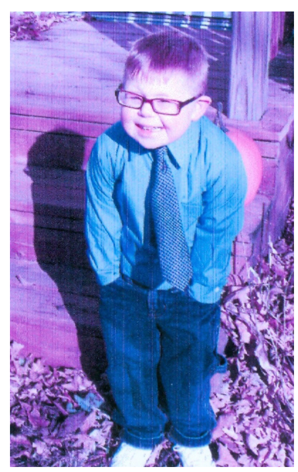


Happy birthday, David Grubb
"Keebler"
Love,
Mom and Dad

Happy belated birthday Shelly Poole
September 23
From your cousin,
Bill Lewis

Happy Birthday Danni Rapp
Love,
Aunt Martha, Uncle Josh, Sydney, and Chelsy

Happy Birthday Margaret Rapp
Love,
Martha, Josh, Sydney, and Chelsy



Happy 6th birthday, little man!
You're a big boy now, but
you'll always be my baby!
Love,
Mom, Nokamis, Misnomis and
the family

POKÉGNEK YAJDANAWA

THE POKAGONS TELL IT

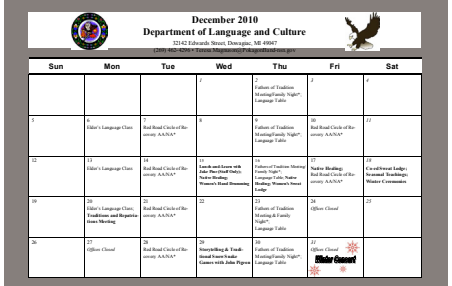
December 2010

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Community Wellness Events Held for Staff and Citizens



Attendees at the community wellness event enjoy an ice breaker activity at the beginning of the Saturday program.

By Teresa Magnuson, Director of Language and Culture

Last month, the Native Wellness Institute returned to the Pokagon Band for the second community wellness event. Instructors Theda New Breast and Cecilia Fire Thunder facilitated the two days of activities at Love Creek Nature Center in Berrien Center. Friday, November 5, government staff, Four Winds Casino Resort staff, and local social service agencies representatives gathered for a cultural sensitivity in-service training. The following day was the Mno-Widoke'wenke' (making good assistance) Pokagon community wellness retreat. The retreat included mind-body-spirit activities to foster self-awareness, personal strength, and community relationship building.

To begin the morning, attendees participated in a pipe and water ceremony followed by a welcome song from Ribbontown singers. After the opening ceremonies were completed, Theda and Cecilia shared cultural wellness teachings and then got participants up on their feet for fun communication and relationship building activities. The engaging activities had participants laughing, dancing, cheering, and asking for more. Participants requested that the Native Wellness Institute return for another community wellness retreat next quarter.

One of the evening's last activities was a future of the Pokagon Band brainstorming session. Participants divided into five groups of seven people to discuss their hopes and vision for the Pokagon community. Some results of that brainstorming session included creating a Pokagon nursery and elementary school, increasing interaction and collaboration between the Elders, Tribal and Youth Councils and starting a sobriety pow wow.

The community wellness philosophy recognizes that we can learn from our past to strengthen our future. Each retreat builds on the progress of the last while at the same time, first time participants won't feel as though they missed a beat. Please join us next quarter for another fun-filled Pokagon community wellness retreat.

Commodities Warehouse Expansion Project Completed

Visitors to the Rodgers Lake campus have probably noticed the commodities warehouse under construction for the past few months. More recent visitors have probably noticed that the construction is finished, and the Pokagon Band has opened a new facility featuring expanded storage space, a demonstration kitchen, and compliance with USDA requirements. The kitchen will be a great space for collaborative nutrition programs with Michigan State University extension service. And eventually citizens enrolled in the commodities program can participate in food demonstrations and tastings.

Bill Goodrich, a tribal citizen, worked as the job superintendent for Majority Builders on the project. This was Goodrich's first time as the head worker on a site. He previously worked on the administration building project, and as an independent contractor did work on the framing, ground level soffit, exterior walls and fascia of the Four Winds Casino Resort.

For Goodrich, it's especially meaningful to work on projects for the tribe.

"I love it," he said. "We're all on the same team."







Right, the finished warehouse exterior. Above, Bill Goodrich. Lower right, the demonstration kitchen in progress.

Pokagon Band Tribal Police Sign Initiative, Collaborate to Meet Crime Safety Needs of Seniors

The Tribal Police Department of the Pokagon Band officially joined forces with other Van Buren county law enforcement professionals, seniors and community groups recently to help reduce crime against seniors and reduce the unwarranted fear of crime that seniors often experience. Police Chief Rachel Sadowski and Community Resource Officers (CRO) Abraham Hohnke and Jaime Sumners were among the signatories of a Triad agreement created to keep Van Buren county elderly safe.

"Crimes targeting older adults are different in that victims are sought out because of perceived vulnerabilities," said Pokagon Chief of Police Sadowski. "We must understand this dynamic to curb these activities, and to assist the victims. Also, Elders traditionally hold a respected role in tribal communities, so anything we can do to further assist them is key culturally."

Working together, Triad volunteers develop and implement crime prevention and education programs for older adults. Triad is a national organization that was founded twenty years ago when three groups: the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Sheriffs' Association agreed that the crime prevention needs of older Americans could be best met by their cooperative effort. The document signed will be sent to the national Triad offices, formalizing the creation of the Van Buren county partnership.



Community Resource Officer Abraham Hohnke looks on as CRO Jaime Sumners and Chief of Police Rachel Sadowski sign the Triad agreement.

Questions About New Health Care Services? Find Answers Here

As mentioned in the last three issues of *Pokégnek Yajdanawa*, the Department of Health Services is in the midst of a 120-day process of becoming compliant with Indian Health Services policies regarding the use of funds from Contract Health Services. Starting February 1, 2011 the health department will offer all eligible Pokagon Band citizens health care via a managed care system. There are lots of questions about the changes. Here are some answers.

Q: Why must all patients needing routine, direct, primary care health services first go to the Pokagon Band Health Clinic?

A: According to CHS rules, routine health services will not be paid through CHS when a tribal facility capable of providing these services is within 90 minutes one-way surface transportation time from the patient's place of residence.

Q: Why must I wait seven days to have my prescription refilled?

A: Currently the Pokagon Band pharmacy is staffed by one licensed clinical pharmacist and one pharmacy technician. They are responsible for medicine reconciliation. In other words, they must check a patient's medical history and records and to ensure that medications will not harm the patient. Each new patient's medication will be checked with all current and future medications, to assure that the medication does not create unwanted side effects. This requires time and diligence and is vitally important to patient safety.

Q: If the Pokagon Band Clinic cannot take care of my health care needs, will I be sent to another health care provider?

A: Yes, if the Pokagon Band medical provider sees the patient and determines his or her needs are best met by using an outside contract facility.

Q: Can the Contract Health Services Program establish a cap on certain procedures (e.g., dental procedures, eyeglasses, etc.)?

A: No. If a health service is within medical priorities, CHS must pay for the full amount of the service.

Q: If the Pokagon Band is guaranteed health care from our treaties for as long the water flows and the grass grows, why are Indians required to apply for alternate resources (i.e., Medicare, Medicaid or private insurance)?

A: While some treaties mention health care, the Indian Health Service is not an entitlement program, and therefore funding for CHS is not guaranteed by the Federal government. Alternate resources CHS funds to be conserved, thereby providing health care for more Indian beneficiaries.

Pokégnek Yajdanawa

Pokégnek Yajdanawa is the monthly voice of Pokégnek Bodéwadmik, the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi. Citizens are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry and announcements for publication in *Pokegnek Yajdanawa*. Submissions are subject to the guidelines printed on page 15 of this issue.

The deadline for citizen submissions for the newsletter is always the 14th of the month. Please send items for publication to:

Pokégnek Yajdanawa
Box 180
Dowagiac, MI 49047

newsletter@PokagonBand-nsn. gov

Elders Hall Luncheon and Inaugural Pokégnek Édawat Halloween Parties Fun for All

A couple of hundred tribal citizens participated in the Department of Housing's inaugural Halloween Bash the afternoon of Sunday, October 31. The event was held in the common area at Kekyajek Odanek, the Elders Village in Dowagiac. Both children and adults delighted in the opportunity to dress up in costumes and play such old fashioned games as tug of war, gunny sack races and corn hole toss.

DJ Roger Rader kept the energy high with fun Halloween music. A short-lived impromptu dance marathon also was included. Costume contests were held for ages. **Marge Brunell** (a witch), **Judy Augusta** (a skeleton), **Margaret Rapp** (a ghost) and **Kathy Grant** competed in the Elders category. The prize of a black and orange George Martin-beaded key chain went to **Margaret Rapp** as the winner of her category.

Other winners included **Devon Helmke** (son of **Rhonda Purcell** and **David Helmke**) as Chicken Little (see right) and **Beth Edelberg** as Marge Simpson. The event ended with trick or treating from 6 till 7 p.m. at Elders' homes. Special thanks go to the entire Housing and Maintenance staff, especially the families of Housing Occupancy Specialists Kim Cushway-Zepeda and Wendy Lipscomb-Hatcher, without whose help the event wouldn't have been possible. Judging from the amount of fun everyone had, the event could become an annual one.







Chicken Little, aka **Devon Helmke**, above, enjoys his treat. **Pat Klemm**, above right, masquaraded as a witch for the Elders Hall Halloween Luncheon October 21. Little trick-or-treaters and their parents take a hay ride around the Pokagon Village, right.

Pokagon Band Library Book Review

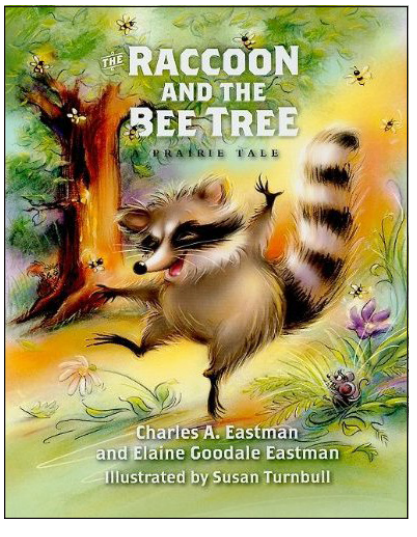
Review by Susan Doyle, Education Associate

The Raccoon and the Bee Tree: A Prairie Tale

By Charles and Elaine Goodale Eastman

A curious raccoon awakes from bed and starts out on a hunt for some food. Curiosity and temptations lead this little raccoon into some trouble that he was not expecting.

This book is a traditional American Indian tale that takes place on the prairie woodlands of eastern South Dakota or western Minnesota. It uses an animal which represents a human to teach a valuable lesson. It is a Mom's Choice Award winner for honoring excellence. Check out this and other Native American books in the Pokagon Band library.



GED Graduates Move Onward and Upward

By Traci Henslee, Employment and Training Specialist

I would like to congratulate the individuals in the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program who graduated in June 2010. **Douglas Barger** and **Tanya Calamari** graduated from Pathfinders, the Dowagiac Union High School Adult Education program. Douglas plans to begin Southwestern Michigan College's business program in fall 2010. Tanya plans to attend Southwestern Michigan College in fall 2010, as well.

Also, congratulations to **Cassandra Rowe**. Cassandra graduated from Bay Pines Center in Escanaba, Michigan. She is the daughter of **Earl and Nora Rowe** and the granddaughter of **Stanley and Linda Morseau**. She was on the honor roll for three semesters and showed improvement in at least one core subject area. She plans to attend Kalamazoo Valley Community College this fall to pursue an associates degree in social work.

If your name is not listed and you would like to share your graduation story, please contact the Pokagan Band Department of Education, Employment and Training Specialist, Traci Henslee at 269-462-4220 or 269-782-0887 to provide details.

Tips, Walking the Path Can Help Avoid the Holiday Bulge

It's incredible to think that the year is coming to an end and the holidays are here. Along with those thoughts of shopping, going to festive gatherings, wrapping gifts, and meals on the run, many of us will have the nagging thought of gained pounds. By following these tips, perhaps you will make it through the season with fewer pounds gained, and maybe a little happier and healthier.

1. Psyche yourself up: don't allow for expansion. Wear your snuggest clothes that don't allow your waist to expand. Leave the sweat pants in the closet.

2. Keep your back to the food. This may seem obvious, but don't stand and watch the buffet table at parties or even stand close to it. Scan the table for three or four things you will enjoy and save the highest calorie food for the last. You may have less chance of overeating. Go for the protein foods as they are more filling, higher in iron, and richer in lycopene.

3. Pace yourself. Eat slowly by taking smaller bites, chewing and swallowing thoroughly, drinking water between bites, or even putting the fork down. Wolfing down food usually equals an additional seventy calories for one meal. This can add up to about a pound of weight gain in just 45 days.

4. Write it down. According to statistics, the more food records a person kept, the more weight lost. E-mail yourself what you ate at work during the day, or use www.MyPyramid.gov food tracker to help you keep a food diary.

5. Get moving. Yes, it's true, calories in and calories out. Think exercising in minutes. Ten minutes is better than nothing and three ten-minute sessions a day equals a 30-minute workout.

6. Liquid calories count. These can really sneak up on a person. Eggnog, coffee drinks with whipped cream, hot toddies, spiced rum can all have as many calories as a personal sized pan pizza! In addition, many of them are just calories without any nutritional value in them at all.

7. What's a good plan to beat the Holiday eight to ten pound weight gain? FIBER! Think about eating five to 11 fruit and vegetable servings a day before you let yourself indulge in high, empty calorie holiday treats.

8. Walk the Path, the virtual walk around Lake Ontario continues until next April, 2011. If you are searching for an incentive or a motivator to help you with the winter couch potato blues or the busting-out-all-over feeling after the holidays, this is the program for you.

Contact Susan Gundersen, the dietitian at the Department of Health Services, 888-440-1234 for more information to get you started on a healthy approach to increased physical activity and wellness. If it works out for you, you may not have anything to lose that second week of January. Good health is the best gift we can give ourselves. Happy Holidays!

Pokagon Band Offering Apprenticeship Opportunities

By John Hieronymus, Talent Acquisition Manager

The idea of human capital is a fairly simple one: the more time and effort one invests at the earliest point in his or her learning journey, the greater return that investment will generate over time. This assumes that the area of interest and study is also an area with some market demand. How does this concept apply to citizens at this time of development for the Pokagon Band?

As I write this, dirt is flying at the Hartford construction site as excavating staff hurries to prepare the soil for concrete slab pouring. We have over fifty applicants who have indicated an interest in our Carpenter's Apprenticeship program. Yet only a third has completed the required TABES test. Those still interested should to contact **Jim Bentham at Michigan Works (800-533-5800, Ext. 1313)** to make an appointment to take the TABES Tests. Tests are given Wednesdays and Fridays at 1:00 p.m. This is a tremendous opportunity to train and employ a great number of Tribal Citizens to support construction projects.

Preparing for these opportunities means being willing to invest in your own human capital. This can mean taking the TABES tests, having reliable transportation to classes and work, and committing to complete your GED within a year of starting the program.

Pokagon Band citizens are driving bull dozers and framing the Community Center, and this is only the beginning. To get involved with the work that needs to be done, fill out the Apprentice Candidate paperwork, take the TABES Tests, get your GED's finished, and make transportation arrangements. Then you will be ready when classes and jobs open up.

Every great journey starts with the first step. Human capital is developed with a combination of education and applied learning. Soon the Band's apprenticeship documents will be ready for the Department of Labor to certify. We will start to interview candidates who have completed their TABES Tests. Within the next six weeks, we will be putting people onto job sites for a two-week Pre-Apprentice Work Evaluation in partnership with Majority Builders.

Human capital: will you be ready to make an investment in yourself? If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. My office phone is 269-462-4268, cell phone 269-240-8798.

AA/NA Meetings
Tuesday nights 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday nights 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Health Services building II
Use the side door for entry.

Pow-Wow Committee Announces Annual Design Contest

The KeeBoonMeinKaa Pow Wow committee is once again hosting a graphic design contest in honor of the 2011 Labor Day weekend pow wow held at Rodgers Lake. The winning design will be used on the t-shirts, event flyer and program cover. The artist who creates the winning design will be awarded $250 from the pow-wow committee! Please send PDF images to Micky at **Michaelina.magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov** by Wednesday, December 15, 2010. The committee looks forward to many great designs!

Crowd Help Dedicate New Building Projects October 6

The Pokagon Band celebrated the Tribe's growth and development October 6 by dedicating two recent projects. That morning there was a dedication and ceremonial smudging of the new administration building at Rodgers Lake, and then the tribe hosted a site blessing for the site of the new community center on Dailey Road. Citizens, staff, local officials and the media enjoyed the ceremonies and a traditional feast at the Tribal Lodge pavilion.

The community center, currently under construction, will be an 8,500 square-foot building providing tribal citizens with a central place to gather for meetings, social events and special occasions. The environmentally-friendly facility will feature a large meeting room, office space, a large conference room divisible into two smaller spaces, a lounge area, kitchen and wall cases to hold cultural items. Outside there will be a large patio with a fire pit, and nearly 100 parking spaces.

At the event, Kevin Fitzgibbons, an administrator for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which funded $2 million of the community center project, commented that the Pokagon Band is unique in its vision for sustainable development.

"There is not a tribe that has made the progress you hve," he said. "These great things would never happen if it weren't for two things: tribal leadership and vision."









Upper right, cultural associate Andy Jackson helps Clarence White prepare for the smudging of the new administration building. Right, Val Janowski of the Housing Department presents Kevin Fitzgibbons with a beaded talking stick. Lower right, members of the Tribal Council listen as Chairman Wesaw welcomes attendees to the event at the construction site. Above, Chinodin Atkinson drumming during the luncheon feast.

Meet the Elder of the Month | Lynne Feaster



My name is Lynne Feaster and I live in Comstock Park, Michigan. My mother, Mary Church, was a full blood Potawatomi and my father, Leonard Church, was half Ottawa and half English. I was raised in a Christian home and have been blessed with three daughters and three wonderful sons-in-law. I have two granddaughters and five grandsons, and one great-grandson who is ten months old.

I was able to retire from the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans at the age of 55 after 37 years of service. I really am enjoying retirement. I have travelled this summer and enjoyed watching my grandkids at their various sports. I have a few projects in the making: a hooked rug with the Pokagon Band seal and two shawls. I work out at Curves and walk my dog Diamond and enjoy reading.

I recently made my mom's famous fry bread to take to my grandson Luke's English class after he gave a book report on a novel by Sherman Alexie called *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. I know how to make corn soup, which my mom was also famous for.

I live two and a half hours from Dowagiac, but my sister Betty McBride and I try to make it to the Elders monthly business luncheon. Besides bus problems, my sister and I enjoyed the trip to Pigeon Forge and the Dixie Stampede. I'm trying to help my brother Conrad and sister Jennie bring educational and fun tribal activities to outside the ten county area. In October we had about fifteen youth come together to play lacrosse, basketball and Indian bingo. I'm proud to be a Pokagon Band member!

Department of Language and Culture

Jake Pine
Date: Wednesday-Friday, December 15-18, 2010
Time: 9:00-12:00p.m, 1:00-5:00p.m.
Location: Teaching Cabin

Barb Pieltier
Date: Wednesday-Friday, December 15-17, 2010
Time: 12:00-5:00 p.m.
Location: Teaching Cabin

Native Healing

Women's Sweat with Barb
Date: Thursday,
December 16, 2010
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Teaching Cabin

Co-ed Sweat with Jake
Date: Saturday
December 18, 2010
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: Teaching Cabin

Jake Pine and Barb Pieltier will be in our community for Native healing and medicine teachings. Please call Andy Jackson to schedule an appointment.

- Individual appointments Wednesday-Friday (please bring tobacco).

Contact : Andy Jackson
Office: 269-462-4261
Cell: 269-783-6198

Sleep Disorders More Common in Natives

Obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) is a condition that develops when a person's airway becomes blocked during sleep, causing breathing difficulties. Sleep apnea is a growing problem, and sleep disorder symptoms more common among American Indians. According to 2009 statistics, twenty percent of the general adult population have mild OSA, while eight percent have moderate OSA. When one is obese, the percentage goes up to sixty percent. The statistics are worse for those with type 2 diabetes: up to eighty percent of type 2 diabetic patients experience mild OSA, while nearly forty percent have moderate OSA.

You are at higher risk for sleep apnea if you have one or more of the following conditions:

- Obesity
- Increasing age
- Male gender
- Anatomic abnormalities of upper airway
- Family history
- Alcohol or sedative use
- Smoking
- Diabetes

Signs and symptoms of sleep apnea include loud, chronic snoring, and gasping and choking during the night. It's a good idea to ask your bed partner if he or she has witnessed any episodes. Excessive daytime sleepiness can also be a symptom. Some of the consequences that come from sleep apnea include increased motor vehicle crashes or work-related accidents, poor job performance, depression, family discord, and decreased quality of life.

If you have any of these signs and symptoms you are encouraged to lose weight, avoid alcohol and sedatives, avoid sleep deprivation, avoid supine sleeping, and stop smoking. You should also contact your doctor for a health assessment and evaluation to see if a referral to a sleep clinic is recommended. There are two types of sleep studies: one done in a clinic setting, and one done at home. If you opt for the at-home sleep study, you may still have to attend a sleep clinic if the test comes back positive.

You can make an appointment with one of our health care providers, nurse practitioner Shirley Grassflower or Dr. Sherburn today. We also have two registered nurses on staff at the clinic that can help with sleep apnea education. If you have questions or cannot make it into the clinic, one of our Community Health Nurses or Community Health Representatives can perform a home visit to evaluate you.

December 2010
Department of Language and Culture

32142 Edwards Street, Dowagiac, MI 49047
(269) 462-4296 • Teresa.Magnuson@PokagonBand-nsn.gov

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	*2* Fathers of Tradition Meeting/Family Night*; Language Table	*3*	*4*
5	6 Elder's Language Class	7 Red Road Circle of Recovery AA/NA*	8	9 Fathers of Tradition Meeting/Family Night*; Language Table	10 Red Road Circle of Recovery AA/NA*	*11*
12	13 Elder's Language Class	14 Red Road Circle of Recovery AA/NA*	15 **Lunch-and-Learn with Jake Pine (Staff Only); Native Healing; Women's Hand Drumming**	16 Fathers of Tradition Meeting/Family Night*; Language Table; **Native Healing; Women's Sweat Lodge**	17 **Native Healing;** Red Road Circle of Recovery AA/NA*	*18* **Co-ed Sweat Lodge; Seasonal Teachings; Winter Ceremonies**
19	20 Elder's Language Class; **Traditions and Repatriations Meeting**	21 Red Road Circle of Recovery AA/NA*	22	23 Fathers of Tradition Meeting & Family Night*; Language Table	24 *Offices Closed*	*25*
26	27 *Offices Closed*	28 Red Road Circle of Recovery AA/NA*	29 **Storytelling & Traditional Snow Snake Games with John Pigeon**	30 Fathers of Tradition Meeting/Family Night*; Language Table	*31* *Offices Closed* Winter Concert	

WOMEN'S DRUM PRACTICE/TEACHINGS



Barb Pieltier will be joining us for women's hand drum practice and teachings. Please join us for an evening of singing and laughter.

Date: Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Time: 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Location: Teaching Cabin

All ladies and girls welcome!
Please bring a dish to pass.

Department of Language and Culture

Contact:
Andy Jackson
Office: 269-462-4261
Cell: 269-783-6198

Ladies please wear your skirts to respect our mother earth.

The Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, Office of Workforce Development in partnership with the United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters and Sprinklerfitters is seeking applicants for the upcoming training. They are now accepting applications for the next Native American Direct Entry Plumbing and Pipe Fitter program to be held November 29, 2010 through April 1, 2011 in Mokena, Illinois at the UA Local 597. Applications are available by contacting Tom Tousey, Special Projects Job Counselor at 715-799-5137 or Sue Blodgett at 715-799-4470.

If you live inside the ten county service area and are low-income or unemployed, you may also contact the Pokagon Band Department of Education Workforce Investment Act program, Employment and Training Specialist, Traci Henslee at 269-462-4220 or 269-782-0887.

Tribal Students Taking Advantage of Enrichment Labs

By Susan Doyle, Education Associate and Penny Brant, Education Coordinator

We will reach our ninth Dowagiac K–5 grade Enrichment Lab by the end of November. More than ten students join us on average every week. We start off enrichment lab at the library in the Department of Education allowing each child to return and check out books. Just about every child takes advantage of this opportunity. Then off we go to the Head Start building for a small snack and to break off into different classrooms. We have been making small changes from previous years to reach the children who have requested tutoring. Currently we are tutoring students one-on-one at the Enrichment Lab in a separate class room while in the main room we have some staff helping students with homework. If the students don't have homework, like many of the first graders, then their activities are aimed toward improving reading, writing, and/or math skills. Our goal for this year is to help all the students with homework and also work with those without homework in mastering the skills they need for their grade level.

The Hartford Labs have been put on hold for the time being. The Hartford schools are sponsoring a wonderful program called Young Rembrandts which coincides with the time of our Lab. While the labs are not currently running, they are not out of our thoughts. We will return!

The Dowagiac 6–12 grade Enrichment Labs are being shifted to a new opportunity for the Native Nations Youth Council. The Dowagiac area group met three times over the last two months with the Native American Student Association of Notre Dame. We travel from the Department of Education, leaving at 4:30 p.m. and arrive back at the property around 8:30 p.m. Activities have included discussions with the ND students, a tour of the science buildings, dinners, and time to relax with the ND students. Our next event will be at 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 4 at the Department of Education. Please contact us at 269-782-0887 or 888-330-1234 if you are in the 7 – 12 grades and would like to be a part of this activity.

The Pokagon Band Behavioral Health and Health Services will present enrollment workshops on Michigan and Indiana services, and Medicaid and Medicare

Monday, December 6, December 13 and 20

1 - 2:30 p.m.

5:30 - 7 p.m.

At the Pokagon Health Services building 2

(enter through the north side door)

Presented by Angie Oliva, BSW, MA,

and Cara Logan, MSW



Men's Health Fair Offers Screenings, Information

What draws people to a health fair? Twenty-seven Pokagon Band men gave different answers to this question after their participation in this year's Men's Health Fair October 7 at the Pokagon Band Department of Health Services.

Many stated the need to receive screenings that checked the status of hearing, vision, blood pressure, weight, and being able to discuss concerns with a health provider. Follow-up plans included making manageable changes in their health by increasing physical fitness, walking more, healthy eating, closely monitoring blood pressure and weight. Others appreciated the reinforcement that they were already doing many of the right things.

Mike Zimmerman, Jr, opened the event in the language with a blessing reflecting the Potawatomi wisdom and spirit of nature and well being.

This year Darr & Associates conducted hearing screenings, and Smoke Family Vision Center performed vision screenings. Doctor Sherburn and Shirley Grassflower, the nurse practitioner, provided exams, PSA blood tests, flu shots, foot exams, body composition analysis, and height, weight, and blood pressure assessments. Lakeland Health Care offered take home colon/stool test kits. In addition, attendees enjoyed participating in such wellness techniques as massage, hand care, a free hair cut, a meal including venison stew, and a goodie bag with educational and fun items. Plus anyone interested could obtain his hunting/fishing license right there in the health clinic!

We want to thank Four Winds Casino and the Niles-Buchanan YMCA for prize donations for our raffle. Herb Getz was our grand prize winner taking home the Four Winds Casino gift certificate. Tom Topash won the men's and women's wrist watch furnished by Four Winds Casino. Ollie Shaer got the Niles YMCA 10 Visit Card. John Carney won the beautiful Native Hand Drum made by Gerald Wesaw. Thank you to all the men who attended this year's event. The Department of Health Services hopes to see you at the Men's Health and Wellness Fair in 2011!

Pictured above, prize winners Albert Genereaux, Tom Topash, Ken Rader, Mike Zimmerman, and in front: Herb Getz and Victor Newsome.

December Students of the Month

by Susan Doyle and Sue Johnson, Education Associates



Karli Malott is a tenth grader attending Brandywine High School, in Niles, Michigan. Karli does beading with her Grandmother occasionally, and is proud to be a Native American because, "I get to learn about the culture and traditions, as well as how we can stick together and make the way better for upcoming children, teens and adults. I like to learn the ways that our ancestors taught us." Karli's favorite food is steak and potatoes. Her favorite toy is her cell phone, her favorite game is Candyland, and her favorite sport is soccer. Karli has a brother Kyle, her mother is Barb Vincent, and grandmother is Ann Zimmerman.



Eric Lewis is a seventh grade student at Watervliet Middle School, Watervliet, Michigan. Eric is proud to be Native American because, "after many cultures have died out, we have still kept our beliefs strong." He loves pizza and grapes. Eric's favorite game is any Xbox 360 game or computer game. He wants to be a game designer when he grows up. He has one sister, Kayla. His mom is Tonya Payne, his father is Dean Lewis, and his step-father is Jerome Payne.



Dawson Welch is a second grader at St. Mary's School, Buchanan, Michigan. He has attended pow wows in the past, and loves the treasures his great-aunt makes, as well as items that belonged to his great-great grandfather. His favorite food is pizza. He loves swimming, his DS, and soccer. When he grows up he wants to go to Sea World and wear shorts year round. His pride in being Native American comes from "being at the casino and reading about our history." He has two brothers, Zachary and Nash. His parents are Dave and Annette Welsh.



Andrue Dayson is a kindergartener at Galien Elementary School in Galien, Michigan. He is proud to be Native and shares his traditions with friends and family. He enjoys spending his free time at pow wows and ceremonies, and teaching his brothers Marcus Wares and Colin Dayson. Andrue is a Grassdancer, as well as a drummer. His favorite food is pumpkin pie. His favorite activities are hockey and wrestling. When he grows up he wants to be a Marine like his Papa and a firefighter like his Dad. His parents are Jennifer Boissoneau and Brian Dayson. His grandparents are Joe and Susan Dayson, and Gail and Junior White.

Elders Council Business Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2010

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:12, Ken Rader

INVOCATION: Clarence White.

ROLL CALL: Margaret Rapp, in at 11:35, Ken Radar, P, Clarence White, P, Audrey Huston, P. Also in attendance, Yvonne (Petey) Boehm.

AGENDA: Yvonne (Petey) Boehm: LIHEP applications are here. Still need volunteers for Elder of the Month. Contact Petey if you would be willing to become Elder of the Month. Phone 1-800-859-2712.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Maxine would like a Tribal Council representative to report back to Elders Council of what went on at Tribal Council.

Tom would like to have Mark from Social Services attend a special meeting concerning lunches when the cook is off. Tom would also like a person to have a room by himself at the MIEA conferences. We are only allotted so many rooms; this would pose a problem as it would cut the number of people who could attend.

MINUTES: The October minutes were read, Clarence moved to accept the minutes with corrections, Ken supported, (4) yes, approved.

TREASURERS REPORT: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: There were too many questions concerning prescriptions and health care to go into detail. Arthur Culpepper will be at our December 2 business meeting to answer any questions you may have. A suggestion was put forth by one of older Elders to invite Tribal Council to this meeting. She felt they should hear firsthand the problems that are being encountered.

Jeanne Mollett would like to have Juan come and play his flute at the social luncheon.

Jackie Trux would like a one day trip to Chicago in November to see the Christmas lights.

OLD BUSINESS: Due to the hotel policy about cancellations, we felt that we had to put a sign up sheet for the rooms early. There are still plenty of rooms.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Language classes are held every Monday at Elders Hall, 11:00 am – 12:00pm.

Active Living classes are held every Friday morning at Elders Hall.

Basket making will start November 10, 2010, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Bake sale November 18, 2010

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS: Jackie Trux, Susan Laursen, Evelyn Miller, Fred Klemm, Margaret Rapp, Stanley Morseau, Gar DeMarsh, Faye Magnuson.

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES: Clarence & Jenny White, Ken & Essye Kirvan.

ADJOURNMENT: Ken moved to adjourn, Clarence supported, (4) yes, adjourned at 1:40 pm.

During the Holidays and Year Round: Designate a Driver

December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, every day 36 people in the United States are killed and over 700 are injured in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that about three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives. In 2006, 13,470 people died in alcohol-impaired driving crashes, accounting for nearly one-third of all traffic-related deaths in the United States. In one year, over 1.4 million drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics. This accounts for less than one percent of the 159 million self-reported episodes of alcohol–impaired driving among U.S. adults each year.

Parents, please do not let your children drive if you think they may be drinking or using drugs. Please plan ahead during the holiday season and all year around. Take the extra time to make arrangements to have a designated driver if you are going to be drinking. Being arrested or involved in an accident while driving impaired not only threatens you and others' physical safety, but affects other aspects of your life. Even if no one is injured, your life may change in many ways. Once law enforcement is involved in your life, your whole wellbeing can be altered. In Michigan your license can be taken away, which can disrupt your ability to care for your family and to get to your job. You may have a record that will follow you through your life. If someone is injured or killed, you must also address the implications of how it will impact your life.

The Pokagon Band Behavioral Health program invites you to address any concerns or issues before the above happens to you. Our program is focused on prevention; we have many ways that we can assist you before something happens. Take control of your own life and protect your family and friends life by being active in preventive measures. It only takes one or two drinks or drugs to affect the outcome of a holiday event. Reach out to the ones who care about you in the approaching holiday season. You may call Behavioral Health at 269-782-4141 extension 325, for more information.

South Bend Area Office Schedule

Mondays: Housing staff will be available to provide information on housing programs.

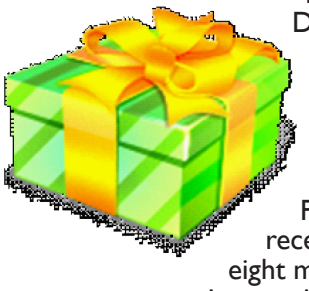
1st Tuesday of the month: Health Services social worker
2nd Tuesday of the month: Contract Health Services processor
3rd Tuesday of the month: Community Health Nurse
4th Tuesday of the month: Community Health Representative
Each Tuesday: Behavioral Health Counselor

CHR, CHS, foot care, diabetes management and prevention by appointment.

Wednesdays: Education staff will be available to assist with scholarship and Workforce Investment Act applications.

Fridays: Social Services staff will be available to provide information and referral on welfare programs. Applications for the daycare program will be available.

Christmas Basket Distribution Planned



The 2010 Pokagon Band Christmas Basket Distribution will begin Thursday, December 16 and run through Sunday, December 19 at the Commodity Building, 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac. Fourteen hundred (1,400) baskets will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

Families with one to four household members receive one basket. Families with between five and eight members receive two baskets. Families more than nine receive three baskets.

You may pick up no more than four baskets for other citizens with a written and signed permission slip. Call 269-782-3372 or 1-888-281-1111 with questions. Christmas Baskets are funded thanks to the Tribal Council.

Hours of distribution:

December 16, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
December 17, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*
December 18, 9 a.m. to 1p.m.*
December 19, 9 a.m. to 1p.m.*

*After December 16, dates and time are dependent on basket availability.



Native Foster Parents Needed

Our traditions tell us the most sacred beings among our Anishnabe people are our children and our Elders. Our children have just come from being with the Creator in the Spirit World, and our Elders are facing the West on their way to the Spirit World to be with the Creator again.

As a Tribal nation, we recognize our responsibility "to provide for the welfare, care and protection of the children," through our Child Protection Code. "The care and custody of the Pokagon Band children are vital to the continued existence and integrity of the Band, as such the welfare of its children is of paramount importance to the Band" says our Family Welfare Commission Ordinance.

There are no words in the Potawatomi language for the term "foster parents." Native people have had to adapt, and the use of this term is now a necessity. Sometimes within our family framework there is turmoil and our children suffer. Some of our children need care and protection. Do you have in your spirit and your home a place for a child who needs a temporary family? Have you ever thought about being a foster parent?

We realize you will have many questions about foster parenting and we urge you to contact our Social Services Department at (269) 782-8998 and ask for Mark Pompey, Director, or Kathleen McKee, our Indian Child Welfare Worker.

Children Step Up as Culture-bearers

Whether summoning the courage to dance or apprenticing to harvest an endangered tree for basketry, Native children play an important role in preserving ancestral ways

By Kara Briggs, American Indian News Service

Kelly Church, a weaver of black ash baskets, is working against time to teach the children of her tribe, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa, about the imperiled tree.

Black ash trees across a vast swath of the continent—from Wisconsin to New York and as far south as Tennessee and north as Ontario—could be effectively extinct in as little as a decade because of an infestation by the emerald ash borer, a voracious imported Asian beetle. In her home state of Michigan, Church said, a decade is optimistic.

"I apprenticed two kids who were able to harvest a tree with me, and pound it—that's one of the most important parts of what we did," she said. "More importantly, we need these kids to plant the black ash seeds decades from now, when the emerald ash borer is expected to be extinct."

American Indian children across North America take on grown-up responsibilities for cultural preservation. Every Indian nation has its own way of sharing its ancient indigenous knowledge with its younger generation. But now, the speed of that transfer of knowledge has increased under pressure from insect infestation and climate changes altering the natural environment.

At the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, the renovation of a classroom-like gallery space into an interactive children's exhibition, opening in May 2011, will show the 40,000 schoolchildren who visit each year the leadership roles that children from many tribes play in carrying on cultural knowledge. In August, Church, whose family has woven black ash baskets for countless generations, participated in a panel discussion about her efforts via teleconference with the museum.

With a grant from the National Museum of the American Indian, Church, 42, held a weaving workshop in Kewadin, Mich., attended by 14 children. From that group, she asked for volunteers to become her apprentices and learn how to harvest the tree. Two children stepped forward, a boy and a girl. Historically, men harvested the tree and prepared it for the women to weave. Now most weavers do every part of the process. Still, Church tried to divide the knowledge along male and female roles, if only to help the youngsters share the responsibility for remembering.



Pokagon youth prepare an ash tree for basket making at summer camp.

She videotaped the practices because, as she said, "I don't expect everything to be fresh in their minds 30 years from now."

Now two more children, a pair of siblings, have volunteered to be Church's next apprentices.

Near the Pacific Ocean, the feather dance of the Siletz Tribe at the summer solstice draws dozens of young people, from 3 years old to their 20s. For the tribe, which 33 years ago won its restoration after termination, bringing the dance back to the public center of its nation has been a long journey, said Alfred "Bud" Lane III, Siletz Tribal Council vice chairman.

"The Indian agents burned all our dance houses so the people put on the ceremonies in their own houses," Lane said. "The dance has never ended; it has gone into certain families over the years. The ceremonial house we built in 1996 is the first one at Siletz in 126 years."

Wearing regalia he made himself, Lane, 53, walked into the 2010 summer solstice dance holding the hand of a three-year-old. He told the child, "Stand here," then took his place as one of the singers. For the next hour as Siletz children took their turns dancing, the youngest boy stood, keeping time with his foot on the cedar plank floor, and singing.

Lane and his wife, Cheryl, prayed for years to see the new generation of Siletz practicing their culture, with their traditions in the center of their lives, and they have seen it happen in this generation. Young adults discuss the meaning of words in the Siletz language, and join in gathering roots and shellfish for meals. Even if wild, traditional foods aren't as plentiful as they once were, the people are dancing.

"My kids were real little when they started dancing," Lane said. "Now they are adults who dance, and my son sings with me."

Patsy Whitefoot, National Indian Education Association president, said American Indian children have valuable opportunities for intergenerational learning because they live in close-knit families, often with parents and grandparents in the same home. Children, even those who struggle in school, can excel in cultural environments.

"Children soak up information," said Whitefoot, who is Yakama and lives in Washington state. "Often we have elders teaching, and the children feel safe."

Recently, Whitefoot's family took their children into the mountains to gather the first huckleberries. On the way, they reminded the children of the cultural protocols, such as not tasting even one of the berries they were gathering to be used in ceremony. On a break for lunch, the children sat together eating and talking, the older ones coaching the younger.

On that same trip her granddaughter began imitating the call of crows, making Whitefoot think about how her ancestors are remembered as children who did distinctive things, who learned to fish and hunt, and who were known to be able to act heroically in a crisis.

Children from Indian nations have always been the ones who would carry on the culture, Church agreed; in some ways, it's just more urgent now.

"When we have a meeting of any kind, you will always see our little ones running around. They are always welcome," Church said. "That is one difference with our culture and other cultures; in our culture, the children are part of everything we do, because pretty soon, they will be doing it as well."

The American Indian News Service is produced for the National Museum of the American Indian by journalist Kara Briggs (Yakama/Snohomish).

Dear Tribal Citizens: November 8, 2010

The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, in accordance with Article X, Section 7, and Articles XII, Section 11 of the Pokagon Band Constitution, has enacted a *Salary Commission Code*, and established an independent *Salary Commission* composed of five Pokagon Band Citizens. The *Salary Commission* is an independent Pokagon governmental body which is constitutionally required to make compensation recommendations for specific elected and appointed positions within the Pokagon Band Tribal Government. The *Salary Commission Code* is the legislative document which provides the standards, procedures, and rules by which the Commission conducts its business and makes compensation recommendations to the Pokagon Tribal Council.

The Salary Commission was initially established by Pokagon statute in 2007, and was fully seated in 2009. During this past year, the Salary Commission performed research, gathered data, sought citizen input, and established the first set of comprehensive compensation recommendations for all official governmental positions in the Tribal Council and the Tribal Judiciary.

On June 12, 2010, the Salary Commission presented these compensation recommendations to the Tribal Council at a regularly scheduled Saturday meeting:

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE POKAGON BAND TRIBAL JUDICIARY:

- **For the Chief Judge of the Pokagon Band Tribal Court:** Increase compensation from a base rate of $170.00 per hour to a base rate of $198.90 per hour.
- **For the Associate Judge of the Pokagon Band Tribal Court:** Increase compensation from a base rate of $160.00 per hour to a base rate of $187.20 per hour.
- **For All Pokagon Band Court of Appeals Justices:** Increase compensation from a base rate of $160.00 per hour to a base rate of $187.20 per hour.

All of the judicial compensation rates were recommended to be paid at 100% of the base rate for performance of judicial services, and 50% of the base rate when performing administrative duties or attending conferences on behalf of the Pokagon Band Tribal Court or Pokagon Band Court of Appeals.

**TRIBAL COUNCIL ACTION ON
THE SALARY COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE POKAGON BAND TRIBAL JUDICIARY**

The Tribal Council did not act on the Salary Commission's compensation recommendations for the Tribal Judiciary at the June 12, 2010 meeting. However, the Tribal Council subsequently revisited these recommendations at a regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting held on October 4, 2010, at which time the Salary Commission's recommendations for Judicial compensation were approved as shown above. In accordance with the Pokagon Band Constitution and the Salary Commission Code, the increase in Judicial Compensation will become effective after the July 2011 general elections have been held.

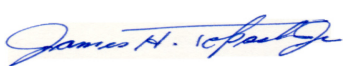
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE POKAGON BAND TRIBAL COUNCIL:

- **For the Tribal Council Chair**: Increase compensation from $35,000 per year to $73,715.20 per year.
- **For the Tribal Council Vice-Chair**: Increase compensation from $60.00 per meeting (stipend) to $44,209 per year (salary).
- **For the Tribal Council Treasurer**: Increase compensation from $60.00 per meeting (stipend) to $51,068 per year (salary).
- **For the Tribal Council Secretary**: Increase compensation from $60.00 per meeting (stipend) to $47,917 per year (salary).
- **For all Tribal Council Members-at-Large**: Increase compensation from $60.00 per meeting (stipend) to $24,627 per year (salary).

**TRIBAL COUNCIL ACTION ON
THE SALARY COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE POKAGON BAND TRIBAL COUNCIL**

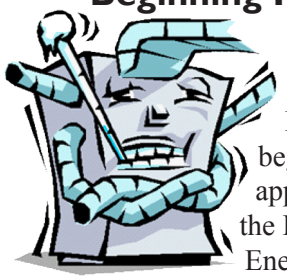
The Tribal Council did not act on the Salary Commission's compensation recommendations for the Tribal Council at the June 12, 2010 meeting. However, the Tribal Council subsequently revisited these recommendations at a regularly scheduled Tribal Council meeting held on October 4, 2010, at which time the Salary Commission's recommendations for Tribal Council compensation were declined. In accordance with the Pokagon Band Constitution and the Salary Commission Code, no change in current Tribal Council compensation may occur until after the Salary Commission presents another set of compensation recommendations to the Tribal Council.

At this time, the Salary Commission has fulfilled its initial responsibilities under the Pokagon Band Constitution and the Salary Commission Code. However, the Salary Commission has an ongoing obligation to maintain current lists of Pokagon Band official positions, and to review compensation levels on a periodic basis. Therefore, the Salary Commission will continue to meet in order to fulfill these and other responsibilities under the Salary Commission Code.



James H. Topash, Jr.
Chairman – Pokagon Band Salary Commission
Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians
PO Box 180, 58620 Sink Rd
Dowagiac, MI 49047

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Beginning Find Help For Winter Heating Bills



The Social Services Department began accepting applications for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP, on November 1. This program is designed to provide a one time heating assistance payment to help with the high energy costs during the winter months for citizens living within the ten county service area: LaPorte, St. Joseph, Elkhart, Starke, Marshall and Kosciusko Counties in Indiana; and Cass, Berrien, Allegan, and Van Buren Counties in Michigan.

To apply, come into the Social Services Department at 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac or call 269-782-8998 or 1-800-517-0777. Or you may fax information to 269-782-4295. Information may also be found on the Pokagon website.

Applicants must provide proof of all household income for the last thirty days, including per capita and/or award letters from social security, RSDI, Elder's stipend, the Veterans Administration, etc. and/or child support received or paid, or a completed zero income form if those above do not apply. Please also bring your provider's utility bill and your tribal identification card.

Income Guidelines

Household Size	*Income Limit*
1	$23,832
2	$31,165
3	$38,498
4	$45,831
5	$53,164
6	$60,497

For family units of more than 6 members, add $7,333 for each additional member.





Chairman Wesaw, above, participated in a panel discussion about Native Americans and the media at Grand Valley State University. Held during Native American Heritage Month, journalists, a media watch dog organization and a tribal communicator also added to the discussion. The event followed a talk given by Native filmmaker Beverly Singer (Santa Clara Pueblo), the author of *Wiping the War Paint of the Lens: Native American Film and Video*, about the media and its portrayal of American Indians.

Tobacco Sales

Cigarettes are sold at the Tribal Administration offices. We sell Basic, Marlboro, and Newport brands and a limited selection of Benson & Hedges, Camels, Doral, Kools, Merit, Misty, Pall Mall, Sonoma, USA Gold, and Winston. Sales are handled by the receptionist Monday–Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m. You must be 18-years-old or older and present your tribal I.D. at the time of purchase. Maximum of five cartons per month per tribal citizen**.** Credit cards accepted.



Tribal Council **December** Calendar of Events

2 Tribal Council meeting, noon, Lodge
6 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
7 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
11 Tribal Council Meeting, 10 a.m., Lodge
13 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
14 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds
15 Tribal Council meeting, 9 a.m., Lodge
15 Legislative Session, 6 p.m., Lodge
20 Tribal Council Meeting, noon, Lodge
21 Gaming Authority, noon, Four Winds

Please check the website, www.pokagonband-nsn.gov or call 1-888-782-2426 before attending to confirm that a meeting has not been cancelled.

Tribal Council Directory

Chairman
Matthew Wesaw
517-719-5579 or 574-591-9806
Matthew.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Treasurer
Troland Clay
269-591-5205
Troland.Clay@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Vice-chairman
Butch Starrett
269-591-2901
Butch.Starrett@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Secretary
Faye Wesaw
269-782-1864
Faye.Wesaw@pokagonband-nsn.gov

At Large Members

Steve Winchester
269-591-0119
Steve.Winchester@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Michaelina Magnuson
269-591-5616
Michaelina.Magnuson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Lynn Davidson, Elders Representative
269-240-8092
Lynn.Davidson@pokagonband-nsn.gov

John Warren
269-214-2610
John.Warren@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Kelly Curran, Executive Secretary
269-591-0604
Kelly.Curran@pokagonband-nsn.gov
Council Lodge Phone: 1-888-376-9988

Tom Topash
269-470-3745
Tom.Topash@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Alice Overly
269-240-8041
Alice.Overly@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Marie Manley
269-214-2609
Marie.Manley@pokagonband-nsn.gov

Tribal Office Directory

Tribal Council
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-6323 /
Toll Free 888-376-9988
FAX 269-782-9625

Elders Program
53237 Townhall Rd.
269-782-0765 /
Toll Free 800-859-2717
FAX 269-782-1696

Administration
Information Technology
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-8998 /
Toll Free 800-517-0777
FAX 269-782-6882

Social Services
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-8998 /
Toll Free 800-517-0777
FAX 269-782-4295

Health Services /
Behavioral Health
57392 M 51 South
269-782-4141 /
Toll Free 888-440-1234
FAX 269-782-8797

Natural Resources
32142 Edwards St.
269-782-9602 Phone
269-783-0452 Fax

Education and Training
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-0887/
FAX 269-782-0985

Finance
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-8998 /
Toll Free 888-517-0777
FAX 269-782-1028

Enrollment
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-1763 /
FAX 269-782-1964

Commodities
269-782-3372 /
Toll Free 888-281-1111
FAX 269-782-7814

Head Start
58620 Sink Rd.
269-783-0026/
866)-250-6573
FA 269-782-9795

South Bend Area Office
310 W. McKinley Ave. Ste. 300
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574-255-2368 /
Toll Free 800-737-9223
FAX 574-255-2974

Housing
58620 Sink Rd.
269-783-0443 /
FAX 269-783-0452

Tribal Court
58620 Sink Rd.
269-783-0505 /
FAX 269-783-0519

Tribal Police
58155 M-51 South
269-782-2232 /
Toll Free 866-399-0161
FAX 269-782-7988

Election
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-9475 /
Toll Free 888-782-9475

Human Resources /
Compliance
58620 Sink Rd.
269-782-8998

Guidelines for Pokégnek Yajdanawa Submissions

Enrolled citizens of the Pokagon Band are encouraged to submit original letters, stories, pictures, poetry, and announcements for publication in Pokégnek Yajdanawa. Submissions shall be the views and product of the submitting member. Submissions written by or to a third-party, such as the governor or a congressman, and copied to Pokégnek Yajdanawa are not original.

Anonymous or "name withheld" submissions will not be published. Members shall include their tribal enrollment number, full name, and mailing address with all newsletter submissions. Tribal enrollment number and mailing address will be used for verification purposes and will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Newsletter staff will contact members should any reason arise that may delay or prevent posting of newsletter submissions. To ensure timely communication with members regarding their newsletter submissions, members may choose to provide additional contact information such as a phone number or e-mail address. Phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and other provided contact information will not be published, unless member specifically requests to have it published.

Not all submissions are guaranteed publication upon submission. Newsletter staff reserves the right to refuse submissions based on the following criteria;

1. False, misleading, or defamatory;
2. Discriminatory, sexist, racist, demeaning, insulting, or otherwise offensive to another;
3. Threatening, harassing, intimidating, or otherwise may tend to produce fear;
4. Profane, obscene, pornographic, indecent, or patently offensive to the average user;
5. Disruptive to the office, undermining of the Band's or a supervisor's authority, or impairing of working relationships; and
6. Absolutely no political campaigning is allowed.

December Elders Lunch Menu

PLEASE CALL THE DAY BEFORE if you are not a regular attendee for meals
MEALS SUBJECT TO CHANGE 269-782-0765 or 800-859-2717 Meal Service Begins @ 12:00 Noon

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Note: Milk, tea, coffee, water, Crystal Light beverages served with every meal. Also, lettuce, tomato, and onion served with sandwiches/ burgers.		1 **Brats and Sauerkraut** **Baked Potato** **Tomato Salad** **Strawberry Glazed Angel Food Cake Roll**	2 **Business** **Chicken Pot Pie W/ Mixed Veggies** **Cottage Cheese** **Sliced Tomatoes** **Fruit Salad** **Cake / Roll**	**Sloppy Joes on Bun** **Baked Sweet Potato Fries** **Broccoli and Cauliflower Salad** **Peaches**
6 Language **Potato W/ Bacon Soup** **Egg Salad Sandwich** **Coleslaw** **Watermelon**	7 **Sea Bass** **Rice Pilaf** **Veggie Kabobs** **Strawberry Cheesecake Cup** **Roll**	8 **Swedish Meatballs** **Mashed Potatoes W/ Gravy** **Asparagus** **Garden Salad** **Blueberries / Roll**	9 **Low Sodium Ham with** **Scalloped Potatoes** **Green Beans** **Tossed Salad** **Jell-O Poke Cake / Roll**	10 **Stuffed Peppers W or Without Rice** **Broccoli and Cauliflower** **Tomatoes and Cottage Cheese** **Cherry Crisp / Roll**
13 Language **Turkey Manhattan W/ Mashed Potatoes, Bread, and Gravy** **Asparagus** **Fruit Salad** **Red Slaw**	14 **Buffalo and Bean Enchiladas** **Brown Rice** **Spinach Salad** **Banana Pudding W/ Vanilla Wafers**	15 **Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup** **Grilled Ham and Cheese Sandwich** **Cucumber Salad** **Fruit Cup**	16 **Social** **Prime Rib** **Baked Potato** **Carrots** **Garden Salad / Beets** **Tiramisu Cake** **Roll**	17 **Red Snapper Fillet (Fish)** **Baked Sweet Potato** **Brussels Sprouts** **Tomato Salad** **Blueberry Pie** **Roll**
20 Language **Buffalo Chili** **Broccoli Slaw** **Fresh Fruit** **Cornbread**	21 **Tuna Salad Pita W/ Lettuce and Tomato** **Baked Potato Wedges** **Veggie and Relish Tray** **Fruit Salad**	22 **Swiss Steak** **Mashed Potatoes W/ Gravy** **Garden Salad** **Steamed Broccoli and Cauliflower** **Peaches / Roll**	23 **Bean Soup** **Low Sodium Turkey Sandwich** **Veggie and Relish Tray** **Melon Slices**	24 **Closed Christmas**
27 **Closed Christmas**	28 **Salisbury Steak** **Mashed Potatoes** **Corn on the Cob** **Tomato Salad** **Fruit / Roll**	29 **Chicken, Broccoli, Rice, & Cheese Casserole** **Cucumber Salad** **Strawberries** **Cornbread**	30 **Pork Chop** **Baked Potato** **Mixed Vegetables** **Applesauce** **Cottage Cheese** **Roll**	31 **Closed New Years**

Per Capita News

The following list of citizens have yet to verify their address with the Pokagon Band Enrollment office for Per Capita payment distribution and 2009 Christmas checks. If you or someone you know is on this list, please contact the Pokagon Band enrollment office to verify the address.

3282	Daniel Sanderson
0083	John Dylan Watson
0406	Michael Lynn Hewitt
0433	Elizabeth Alexandra Gray
0434	Thomas Charles Abercrombie
0857	Peter John Ramirez
1445	Michael David Bush
1446	Bobby Marcus Haynes
1506	Michaela Lynne Canard
2795	Edward F Cushway
2805	Isabel Marie Campos

The following list of citizens have not contacted the enrollment office to verify their valid addresses to receive their 2009 Christmas checks.

BRANDIE SHENEE ANTISDEL
MICHAEL ALLEN BARR
FELICIA CHRISTINE BIXLER
IAN THOMAS CURREY
PAUL ISAAC GIBSON
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRA GRAY

Happy birthday December 4 to Karen Simington, my wonderful daughter, whom I'm very proud of!
Love you,
Mom

Happy birthday Sue Andrews, December 9
My very caring and loving sister. Have a great day!
Love your sister,
Martha McConnell

Happy anniversary to an outstanding couple. 41 years December 13! I'm so very proud of you both.
Love your sister,
Martha McConnell

Happy late 24th birthday November 17, Taylor Falk.
I love you,
Mom



Happy birthday, Brendon Paul Gibson
December 6
Love you always,
Mom and Dad
Grandmom and Grandpa Gibson

In memory of Jerry Lee Ashby
May 7, 1961– November 26, 2009
One year ago our family was changed forever.
Every day holds a thought of you.
Always loving you, every day missing you, forever with us in our hearts,
your loving family,
Cheryl, Aleasha and Ed
Jeremy Jessica, Ganis, Sierra, Serenity and Evan



Happy birthday Sierra!
Love, Daddy and Bubby

Pokégnek Bodéwadmik • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi
Administrative Office
58620 Sink Road
Dowagiac, MI 49047